A MESSAGE FROM MRS. FAWCETT

The Common Cause
OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*** [NON-PARTY.

VOL. IX., No. 428.] FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1917. [PRICE 1D.
Registered as a Newspaper.

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[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]

To the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

A Message from Mrs. Fawcett.

The hour of victory for our great cause has struck. After the tremendous majority of 385 to 55 on Tuesday against Sir F. Banbury's amendment to defeat Clause 4 of the Representation of the People Bill, and after the majority of 214 to 17 on Wednesday night, we cannot but feel that the battle is over and the victory is ours.

For these figures do not stand alone; they represent no solitary success, but appropriately follow up the majority of 341 to 62 on March 28th for the introduction of legislation on the lines of the Speaker's Conference, and of 329 to 40 on May 23rd for the Second Reading of the Bill.

Legally and technically, of course, Women's Suffrage is not safe until it is on the Statute Book. The Bill has to go through all its remaining stages in the Commons and all its stages in the Lords, then to come back to the Commons for the consideration of the Lords' amendments. There are, therefore, many stages before the Bill becomes an Act. Still, we are justified in feeling very confident: for this reason; Women's Suffrage now has behind it an immense volume of support from all parties all over the country. This is the real source of our strength in the Commons, and will be of great service to us in the Lords. We have, moreover, a Prime Minister who is a convinced Suffragist. "Very keen and very practical" as he was described to me about six months ago. It is obvious, since the introduction of the Bill, that the Government, as a whole, means business, and intends to get it carried into law. This manifest determination has had a most wholesome influence on the debates at every stage of the Bill.

It is a particular satisfaction to the N.U.W.S.S. as a non-party organisation that the Bill is in charge of a National Government representative of all parties. Its passage is no party triumph, but an expression of the National will. Another deep source of satisfaction is that it is practically a solution "by consent" of an old controversy, and that this solution owes nothing to frightfulness or intimidation of any kind. The Bill is an agreed Bill. Of course, nearly all Suffragists want more than the Bill gives them. The practical question is, how are we most likely to get it? The Bill destroys the disability of sex, and will place approximately 6,000,000 women on the Register before the next election. Women will form, after the Bill has passed, about one-third of the electorate. This is an enormous gain from our point of view.

To the societies and members of the National Union, I should like to take this opportunity of sending a message of cordial appreciation of the splendid national work they have done ever since the war broke out. From the London Society, with its many thousand members, to the smallest country society, one and all, they have done wonders in the way of efficient organisation and first-class practical work. When the war broke out I called upon them, on August 7th, 1914, to bind themselves together to render the greatest possible aid to their country during the tremendous struggle which lay before it. Nobly have they responded to that call. Everywhere, as I have moved among our societies during the last three years, I have marvelled at, and delighted in, the national work they have been doing.

Our tasks in the future will be somewhat different. We shall have more power and more responsibility. We shall be able to accomplish more. Our great organisation, which has kept together so wonderfully during the war, will be more important than ever in the years that lie before us. Let no society disband or think its work is done. Our work is just beginning. We must think earnestly and deeply in what direction we ought to develop, and I hope we shall take the opportunity of meeting together in the autumn or early winter to decide our future action.

Triumph of Women's Suffrage.

Representation of the People Bill in Committee.

Never have the proceedings of the House of Commons been fraught with such hope of future benefit to the women of the country as were those which took place on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week when the House, after settling the qualifications of Local Government voters—and therefore of women Parliamentary voters—debated and determined that Women's Suffrage should be established in the United Kingdom. We give below a day-by-day record of these vitally important debates.

MONDAY, JUNE 18TH.

Before the debate on the instructions to Boundary Commissioners was resumed, the House spent a lively afternoon in questions.

MR. ARNOLD WARD (*Watford*) asked whether the Government would give a day for the discussion of the Referendum.

THE HOME SECRETARY, SIR GEORGE CAVE refused to give any hope that the Committee on the Bill would be interrupted for this purpose, and to Mr. Ward's enquiry whether the Government realised that they were driving the Anti-Suffragists into a position of general opposition to the Bill, he replied: "We must put up with that."

The House then continued the debate on the resolution approving the instructions to the Boundary Commissioners, which was agreed to without a division.

CLAUSE 2. UNIVERSITY QUALIFICATION.

Returning to the Bill itself: Clause 2, "A man shall be entitled to be registered as a Parliamentary elector for a university if he has received a degree (other than a honorary degree) at any university forming, or forming part of the constituency," was passed without a division and with hardly any discussion.

CLAUSE 3. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT QUALIFICATION.

In the discussion on this Clause, Mr. MACCALLUM SCOTT moved that the qualification, as defined in the Clause, should only apply to England and Wales, and that in Scotland lodgers should be able to vote as before. He pointed out that up to the present the local government franchise in Scotland has been much broader and more generous in the extent to which it has given the vote. The recommendations of the Speaker's Conference would have a "large disfranchising effect upon Scotland." He went on to say that there were two ways in which this difficulty might be met. The first would be that Scotland should have the same franchise for Parliamentary as for Local Government purposes. The second would be to add special provisions to the Bill restoring the lodgers, and secure the Local Government franchise for Scotland. The chief difficulty about giving the same register to Scotland for both local and Parliamentary purposes, would be the question of Women's Suffrage. "I take it for granted that for the purposes of this clause, Women's Suffrage is passed, and that we have to face the problem of how this is to be done. If you make a different Local Government franchise for Scotland from that which obtains in England, you will have the immediate difficulty that the Women's Suffrage Clause in the Bill is based on the Local Government purposes." He went on to suggest that this could be easily met by having Women's Suffrage in Scotland based, not on the Local Government register, but on the same conditions as those on which women were actually enfranchised in England, and embodying it all in a separate clause.

In replying to Mr. MacCallum Scott, the SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND (MR. MUNRO, *Wick Burghs*) promised that matters should be so arranged as to do what he had suggested, and to place Women's Suffrage in Scotland on the same basis in substance as in England, and after some further discussion the amendment was withdrawn.

LODGERS IN UNFURNISHED ROOMS.

An amendment, moved by MR. ADAMSON, for making the Parliamentary register the local government register was negatived, SIR GEORGE CAVE having pointed out that the scope of it would be too vast, inasmuch as it would give every resident the local government vote. MR. HERBERT SAMUEL estimated that Mr. Adamson, by his "apparently innocent proposal," would be giving the Parliamentary vote to 7,000,000 women.

An amendment of considerable importance, moved by MR. DICKINSON, met, after long debate, with acceptance. MR. DICKINSON's proposal was to leave out the qualifying (or rather, disqualifying) words "but not as a lodger." The Speaker's Conference, as MR. DICKINSON explained during the Second Reading debate, had never resolved definitely to rule out all lodgers from exercising the municipal franchise, neither had it intended to give the vote to the man or woman who takes a furnished lodging for a few weeks and is a lodger in the ordinary sense of the word. But the law courts have treated other people beside these as lodgers—namely, the occupiers of unfurnished rooms in houses where the landlord also happens to reside. Such tenants of unfurnished rooms were, though poor, in much the same position as that of occupiers of West End flats. He admitted that the Bill, even with his amendment, would disfranchise a considerable number of municipal voters in London and Scotland, but in London particularly. In the larger cities of England and Wales the municipal vote was an occupation vote, and did not include the lodger or service franchise voter as in London, so that Mr. Dickinson's amendment would not affect the position of municipal voters everywhere. As SIR JOHN SIMON said, when supporting Mr. Dickinson's amendment, in London, and a few of the other largest cities, people are found living in unfurnished lodgings who in another town would be living in a house.

CLAUSE 4. THE ENFRANCHISEMENT OF WOMEN.

The way was cleared for the debate by the speedy ruling out of order of Mr. Arnold Ward's Amendment proposing that if the Clause were passed it should not take effect till the whole question of Women's Suffrage had been submitted to a referendum. All through the afternoon and evening Mr. Ward fought a desperate battle for a forlorn hope (if Anti-Suffrage can be called a hope!). Mr. George Thorne referred to the Swan songs of the Anti-Suffragists. Mr. Ward was certainly the most eloquent of the swans, though perhaps Sir Charles Hobhouse made the best use of all that remains of the Anti-Suffrage arguments.

SIR FREDERICK BANBURY moved the rejection of the whole Women's Suffrage Clause. He argued that the present House of Commons was not competent to make a great change in the franchise; that the women who were doing war work did not want votes; that this was not the time; that if women voted they would soon sit in Parliament and enter the great offices of State; and that India could never stand that. (It was strange to hear the member for the City quoting Mr. Gladstone.) He went on to deplore Mr. Asquith's change of view, which he could not account for at all, and to insist on the radical unfitness of women for any kind of public life.

SIR CHARLES HOBHOUSE (*Bristol, E.*) deprecated giving the vote as a reward for the war service of women. He thought it would be an additional strain; an impossible strain for women during the child-bearing period of life. He dwelt on the fear that a majority of women might combine with a minority of men, to force on men some legislation to which they strongly objected. He did not believe that people outside the House had changed their minds as much as people in it on the subject of Women's Suffrage. Therefore, he would have preferred to take the question over the head of a moribund House of Commons and submit it to a referendum.

LORD HUGH CECIL (*Oxford University*) supported the Women's Suffrage Clause, thinking it the one good thing in a Bill which he does not love. He dwelt on the great desire of the women for the vote, and contended that though it might be true that some women did not want the vote, there could be no equality between the wish of a person to have a vote and the wish not to have it. On the theory of the Anti-Suffragists that voting would be an unbearable strain on the sensitive natures of women, he poured the delightful mockery which always enchants the House, and which cannot receive justice in a short report. If he seemed at times rather to undervalue the privileges of democracy than to uphold that, whatever they are, women should share in them, he at least made it plain that to numbers of thinking women their exclusion is an intolerable injustice, and that such a sense of injustice

cannot be left unremedied by statesmen without risk of grave injury to the whole of the body politic. The war had strengthened the case for Women's Suffrage; it had brought into existence great classes of work-women who, after the war, would have industrial and economic interests affected by legislation, and by reason of these interests, and of their being citizens of the country, were entitled to be represented in Parliament. The grant of the Suffrage to women would be a reasonable act of justice; it would be an act of policy; it would remove legitimate discontent, and could do no possible harm. To him it appeared as a Conservative measure calculated to strengthen and add stability to the State.

MR. BURDETT COUTTS (*Westminster*) spoke mainly about Woman's Influence, and how disastrous it would be to destroy the fine balance of her nature and bring her down to the level of man. He then asked what would be the attitude of women if we had to face another great war. The awful experience which they had gone through would probably be more lasting in their memory than in that of men, and if they had the power they might imperil the Empire. So long as war was possible and might be necessary for the safety of the nation, women could never be a complete unit of responsibility in the national life.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL (SIR F. E. SMITH) was very frank, perhaps a trifle too frank for the feeling of the House. He was not, he said, converted to Women's Suffrage (though he admitted that many of the arguments for it had crumbled into dust, and did not reveal which were the ones that he thought still stood), but Women's Suffrage was going to come; to vote against it now might endanger the recommendations of the Speaker's Conference, which he thought ought to be accepted in their entirety, therefore he would vote for it; he could do no possible good by voting against.

SIR JOHN SIMON (*Walthamstow*) made a fine and eloquent speech. He indignantly denied that the votes which were now about to be given to women would be in the nature of a reward. No Suffragist would look on them in that light, and he himself thought the suggestion almost an insult. But there was an argument for giving women votes now, which had not existed before the war. The anti-Suffrage argument, which he had found it most difficult to overcome in the past, was the one that maintained that women could not contribute as men did to the support of law and order, and that if the country were in the throes of a great war the women would be a part of the nation who could not really contribute to its sustenance and defence. "This argument," he went on, "has suffered a very serious overthrow. Nobody to-day can say that the fact of sex has resulted in the women not being able to make a contribution as great, involving as much sacrifice, and producing as much support to the State as even the sacrifices made by men." He supported this statement by showing how early calculations as to the time for which communities engaged in the war could hold out had been rendered vain by this very fact—that nobody had realised how much the women could contribute.

Turning to the industrial question, he showed how the very extent and intensity of the effort made by women for their country would be turned to their future detriment if they were not now given their political freedom. On the one hand, we have discovered, in the light of our experience, that women are essential elements in the structure of the State for the immediate purposes of the war. On the other hand, we realise that when we return to the way of peace it is equally impossible to restore or to recreate the industrial and social state unless we make provision for meeting and reconciling women's with men's labour in all sorts of directions which were not before exploited. Every war left an immense void. Women would have to help in filling up the void left by this one, and in order that they should do so in a fair and effective way it was essential that they should have their freedom. He pleaded for a swift settlement of the question.

MR. MACCALLUM SCOTT (*Bridgeton*) re-stated the physical-force anti-Suffrage argument exactly as it was used before the war—"the balance of political power," he said, "should be in the same hands as held the balance of physical force."

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD (*Leicester*), in an able and closely-reasoned speech, exposed the distorted theories about the relations of men and women which anti-Suffragists hide under clouds of sentimental verbiage about women's influence. He went on to demolish what was left of the physical-force argument. "When people talk about force on the field of battle, what do they mean? They mean the shells made by British women hundreds of miles from the scene of action." He ended by saying that at present women had power without responsibility, a very dangerous state of things, and that for this reason, if for no other, he would vote for Women's Suffrage.

MR. MACKINDER (*Glasgow, Camlachie*) opposed Women's Suffrage because he had opposed it before, and did not approve of people changing their minds on grave questions. He also thought that having the vote would alter woman's position in society and the State.

SIR J. WALTON (*Barnsley*) supported the Women's Suffrage Clause as a step in the right direction, though he would have preferred Adult Suffrage.

MAJOR SIR B. FALLE had no fundamental objection to Women's Suffrage, but objected to the question being dealt with while so many voters and members were fighting abroad.

The FIRST COMMISSIONER OF WORKS (SIR ALFRED MOND, *Swansea*) said the war had brought home the truth that nations were not divided into men and women, but composed of citizens, who must co-operate for the good of the State. He objected to the theory that the men now fighting abroad would be opposed to giving votes to women; he thought that if it were possible to take a referendum in the trenches, it would be overwhelmingly in favour of Women's Suffrage.

SIR GEORGE THORNE (*Wolverhampton*) made a cheerful speech from the point of view of an old supporter of Women's Suffrage, who now felt assured that the cause was won.

COLONEL SIR CHARLES SEELY (*Notts*) repeated what had been said by other Anti-Suffragists about the impossibility of settling the question of Women's Suffrage except by referendum.

The PAYMASTER-GENERAL (SIR J. COMPTON RICKETT, *Osgoldcross*) hoped that the vote would be given ungrudgingly to women, and that men would hold out both hands to welcome those who were coming to help them.

SIR STUART COATS (*Wimbledon*) drew some lurid pictures of the distressing results of Women's Suffrage in the United States of America, and in support of his testimony read aloud a series of letters from American ladies and gentlemen.

The MINISTER OF BLOCKADE (LORD ROBERT CECIL) summed up and answered such arguments as could be found in the Anti-Suffrage speeches of the evening, and said that one of the main reasons why he was in favour of Women's Suffrage was that he was convinced it would make both for good government and the contentment of the people with government. In this country it was necessary for public contentment to have, first, a reasonable measure of self-government, and, secondly, the sense that the people were governing themselves. For both these reasons it was impossible to perpetuate a system under which half the population had no representation in the House of Commons. The only justification for such a state of things was a disbelief either in representative government or in the fitness of women to vote.

The proposal was to give the vote to women of thirty years of age and over, and it was clear that a very large majority of these women would be married women. They were those most likely to be capable of exercising the vote and least likely to exercise it in a radical and revolutionary direction. He was of opinion that the compromise Bill would be very one-sided indeed if they struck out the provision to enfranchise women over thirty.

He entirely agreed that after the war many industral problems would arise in which women were mainly or largely concerned, and that it would be unfair to attempt to settle them without consulting the women. He would put it even higher. In facing these problems, not only material, but moral and social, political and religious, problems of the gravest importance, it would be criminal to disregard the advice of the women, and he earnestly hoped that by no uncertain voice they would reject the amendment and accept the principle.

Then MR. ARNOLD WARD sang his swan-song (the expression by-the-bye was Sir George Thorne's). It was indeed a piteous cry, and should be read in the cold pages of Hansard. Those who thought with him, he said, believed that they were not being treated fairly.

How many thought with him in that crowded and excited House of Commons was soon made evident. A few minutes after he had finished his speech the closure, moved by SIR GEORGE CAVE, was carried. There voted:—

For the Amendment (to cut Women's Suffrage out of the Bill)	55
Against	385

The majority in favour of Women Suffrage was therefore 330—a majority of 7 to 1.

As one of the most devoted supporters of Women's Suffrage within the House of Commons said: "It was a great day"; or rather, a great night!

Wednesday, June 20th.

The principle of Women's Suffrage having been accepted by such an overwhelming majority on Tuesday, the continued debate on Clause 3 had, on Wednesday, a certain feeling of flatness.

The Anti-Suffragists know now that Women's Suffrage cannot at this date be defeated in the House of Commons. Their only hope—and it is a hope that is near despair—is to obstruct and delay the Bill, or in some way to undermine the compromise on which it rests. They tried to do this on Wednesday by widening amendments, amendments with no genuine support behind them, designed only to make the future progress of the Bill difficult. It is a device with which Suffragists are familiar, and for which, on this occasion, they were quite prepared. The answers given to their speeches and questions showed that not only experienced workers for our cause, like Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Snowden, but also Members of the present Government, understood the motive of their speeches, and would not pretend that they did not.

The Age of Women Voters.

The first device for widening and wrecking the clause was to remove the age limit of thirty. This was proposed by Mr. Peto (*Wilts, E.*), and supported by Sir Henry Craik (*Glasgow University*) and other Anti-Suffragists.

Mr. Peto was of opinion that the grant of the vote to the younger women who were to be excluded by the age limit would practically satisfy all the chief grievances that were said to exist. If the age limit of thirty were retained, and in the main the married women were enfranchised, Parliament would be admitting a very large number of persons who would have no desire to exercise the franchise. The expedient by which it was attempted to limit the number of women voters was the worst, the least permanent, and the most illogical that could possibly have been devised.

Mr. Dickinson's lucid and conciliatory explanation of the reasons which had led the Speaker's Conference to propose and Suffragists to accept a different basis and age for women voters than that offered to men could not have been misunderstood by any genuine friendly doubters, but the doubters here were not genuine. He said it ought to be understood that the proposals in the Bill, which were now being dealt with, were just as much the result of compromise as any other of the Conference's recommendations. If the view were adopted that it would not be wise to enfranchise all women at once a compromise had to be found by which it would be secured that whatever representation was given to women would be adequate and representative of all classes of the community. There were in the United Kingdom about 14,000,000 women above the age of twenty-one years, and it was agreed at the Speaker's Conference that about 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 of them should be enfranchised at once. To have adopted an age limit alone would be the simplest plan; but as there ware 12,000,000 women over twenty-five years of age and 10,000,000 over the age of thirty years, the adoption of either of those standards of age would have placed upon the register more than the agreed number; and it would have been necessary to adopt the age limit of forty years if not more than 7,000,000 women were to be enfranchised. The present female municipal voters were all of that class who occupied houses in their own right, and if the Parliamentary vote were conferred upon them alone the great mass of married women would be left unenfranchised. By granting the Parliamentary vote to all women who were local government electors or the wives of husbands entitled to be registered as local government electors the agreed number of 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 would be secured, and it would include representatives of all classes of women from the highest to the lowest. Although this arrangement would leave out most of those women who had been working in connection with the war, their mothers would be enfranchised. The great majority of women's organisations did not wish to go beyond the proposal, because they were anxious that the Bill should be carried through this House, and, what was even more dangerous, the other House.

Sir Henry Craik could not see that logic or common justice was satisfied by the compromise proposed. Women who had taken the highest honours degree at the university might have to wait for nine years before they could exercise the suffrage, whilst thousands of men who had just slipped through the pass degree would get the vote at the age of twenty-one.

Mr. C. Roberts (*Lincoln*) pointed out that all the Women's Suffrage organisations had agreed to accept the compromise, and that it was unnecessary for M.P.s to be more royalist than the King.

The Home Secretary, Sir George Cave, said that he considered the quarters in which the amendment had received support significant, and thought the House might infer its purpose. He called upon every supporter either of Woman Suffrage or the Bill as a whole to resist the amendment. If the amendment were accepted, the Government would have to consider the whole position; he could not be responsible for the further conduct of the Bill.

Lord Hugh Cecil supported the removal of the age limit, saying frankly that though he thought it was absurd to make any difference at all between men and women in the matter of voting, he did think a limitation of the women was necessary at present, and that the way in which he would limit them would be by cutting out the wives of men on the Municipal Register (*i.e.*, he would only give votes to about one million women instead of six).

The other supporters of the wrecking amendment were Sir R. Williams (*West Dorset*), Lieut.-Col. Meysey Thompson (*Handsworth*), Sir F. Banbury, Mr. MacCallum Scott, and Sir Charles Hobhouse. It was opposed by Sir John Simon, Mr. Snowden, Captain Ormsby-Gore, Mr. Ronald McNeill, and Mr. T. C. Taylor.

On a division it was rejected by 291 votes to 25—a majority of 266 in favour of the Speaker's Conference proposals.

Mr. Peto then moved, and Lord Hugh Cecil supported, an amendment such as Lord Hugh had described before, to cut out the married women and reduce the Women's Suffrage proposals to the scope of the old Conciliation Bill.

This was rejected without a division.

The Local Government Franchise.

Mr. Charles Roberts (a Suffragist) moved an amendment designed to widen the local government franchise for women by giving it on the same basis as is now proposed for the Parliamentary franchise. The effect of this would be to add about five million married women to the Local Government Electorate.

The Home Secretary showed himself not unsympathetic, but said that as the whole object of the Speaker's Conference had been to come to an agreement about the Parliamentary franchise, this was not a very good moment for altering the basis of the local government franchise for women.

After the amendment had been lengthily supported by the Anti-Suffragists (who sought to cause as much delay as possible, by speeches, large portions of which might have been quotations from suffrage leaflets) it was withdrawn by Mr. Roberts.

A discussion followed on the question whether Clause 4 should stand part of the Bill, in the course of which Sir R. Williams made a speech reminiscent of John Knox's "Monstrous Regiment of Women" and in striking contrast to the modern-style speeches of Anti-Suffragists as shown in the debate. After this the House divided. The clause was then carried by 214 votes to 17—a majority of 197.

The victory that had been won on Tuesday night was thus confirmed.

The House began to discuss Clause 5 (votes for soldiers and sailors). This discussion and the further progress of the Bill will be reported next week.

THE VOTES OF MEMBERS ABSENT ABROAD.

The following letter was sent to the Press on June 19th by the Honorary Parliamentary Secretary of the N.U.W.S.S.:—

Sir,—Opponents of Women's Suffrage have asserted that this reform is being pushed through during the absence abroad of a large number of members of Parliament, and the implication is that all or most of these would have voted against it had they been at home.

According to the latest figures available, there are, in fact, fifty members of the House out of the country at the present moment. Of these, twenty are known supporters of Women's Suffrage, three of them having become converted during the war. Of the remainder, four previously known as opponents have told us that their views are modified, and they would abstain from voting if at home. Only one has told us that his opposition is unchanged. The present attitude of the remaining twenty-five is unknown to us. But even upon the incredible assumption that they have all remained untouched by the great wave of favourable opinion that has spread over Parliament and over the country, these figures leave a maximum majority of six votes among the absent members against Women's Suffrage. Is it suggested that, in deference to the hypothetical opposition of these six, the 620 members who remain in England should be held incompetent to decide this great issue?—Yours faithfully,

Ray Strachey.

(Honorary Parliamentary Secretary, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.)

We understand that Mr. Runciman and Major Hills were unable, to their great regret, to reach the House in time to vote against Sir Frederick Banbury's amendment on Tuesday, and that the endeavours which they made to obtain pairs were unavailing.

How Did Your Member Vote?

Every reader will be interested to know whether the member for her own constituency voted for or against the inclusion of Women's Suffrage in the Representation of the People Bill, or was among the absentees.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19TH.

Those who voted in favour of Sir Frederick Banbury's Amendment for excluding women were :—

Banbury, Rt. Hon. Sir Frederick G.
Barran, Sir Rowland H. (Leeds, N.).
Bathurst, Col. Hon. B. (Glos., E.).
Blair, Reginald.
Brassey, H. Leonard Campbell.
Burdett-Coutts, William.
Carson, Rt. Hon. Sir Edward H.
Cecil, Rt. Hon. E. (Aston Manor).
Chamberlain, Rt. Hon. J. Austen.
Coats, Sir Stuart (Wimbledon).
Craik, Sir Henry.
Duncan, Sir J. Hastings (Otley).
Falle, Sir Bertram Godfray.
Foster, Philip Staveley.
Gibbs, Col. George Abraham.
Grant, James Augustus.
Gretton, Colonel John.
Gwynne, R. S. (Sussex, Eastbourne).
Hambro, Angus Valdemar.
Hamilton, Rt. Hon. Lord C. (Kens., S.).
Hamilton, Maj. C. G. (Altrincham).
Hardy, Rt. Hon. Laurence.
Henry, Sir C. S. (Shropshire, Mid.).
Hibbert, Sir Henry Fleming.
Hobhouse, Rt. Hon. Sir Chas. E. H.
Hope, James Fitzalan (Sheffield).
Hunt, Major Rowland.
Layland-Barratt, Sir Francis
Levy, Sir Maurice.
Lloyd, G. Butler (Shrewsbury).
MacCaw, Wm. J. MacGeagh.
Mallaby-Deeley, Harry.
Mason, James F. (Windsor).
Meysey-Thompson, Col. E. C.
Middlemore, John Throgmorton.
Molteno, Percy Alport.
Morison, Hector (Hackney, S.)
Paget, Almeric Hugh.
Peto, Basil Edward.
Priestley, Sir W. E. B. (Bradford, E.).
Quilter, Sir Cuthbert.
Rawlinson, John Frederick Peel.
Rutherford, Sir J. (Lancs. Darwen).
Samuels, A. W. (Dublin University).
Seely, Lieut.-Col. Sir C. (Mansfield).
Smith, Harold (Warrington).
Talbot, Lord Edmund.
Terrell, Major Henry (Gloucester).
Walker, Col. William Hall.
Warde, Col. C. E. (Kent, Mid.).
Weigall, Lieut.-Col. W. E. G. A.
Williams, Colonel Sir R. (Dorset, W.).
Wilson-Fox, Henry.
Yate, Colonel Charles Edward.
Young, William (Perth, East).

TELLERS FOR THE NOES, Mr. Arnold Ward and Mr. MacCallum Scott.

Those against the Amendment, and in favour of Women's Suffrage were :—

Acland, Rt. Hon. Francis Dyke.
Adamson, William.
Addison, Rt. Hon. Dr. Christopher.
Adkins, Sir W. Ryland D.
Agg-Gardner, Sir James Tynte.
Ainsworth, Sir John Stirling.
Allen, Arthur A. (Dumbartonshire)
Amery, Capt. Leopold C. M. S.
Anderson, William Crawford.
Archdale, Lieut. Edward Mervyn.
Armitage, Robert.
Arnold, Sydney.
Ashley, Wilfrid W.
Asquith, Rt. Hon. Herbert Henry.
Astor, Major Hon. Waldorf.
Baird, John Lawrence.
Baker, Joseph Allen (Finsbury, E.).
Baldwin, Stanley.
Balfour, Rt. Hon. A. J. (City of Lond.).
Balfour, Sir Robert (Lanark).
Banner, Sir John S. Harmood-
Baring, Sir Godfrey.
Barlow, Sir John E. (Somerset).
Barlow, Montague (Salford, S.).
Barnes, Rt. Hon. George N.
Barnett, Capt. Richard W.
Barrie, Hugh T.
Barton, Sir William.
Beach, William Frederick Hicks.
Beale, Sir William Phipson.
Beauchamp, Sir Edward.
Beck, Arthur Cecil.
Beckett, Hon. Gervase.
Bellairs, Com. Carlyon W.
Benn, Arthur Shirley (Plymouth).
Bennett-Goldney, Francis.
Bentinck, Lord H. Cavendish-
Bethell, Sir John Henry.
Bigland, Alfred.
Bird, Alfred.
Birrell, Rt. Hon. Augustine.
Black, Sir Arthur W.
Blake, Sir Francis Douglas.
Bliss, Joseph.
Boland, John Pius.
Bowerman, Rt. Hon. Charles W.
Boyton, James.
Brace, Rt. Hon. William
Brady, Patrick Joseph.
Bridgeman, William Clive.
Brookes, Warwick.
Brunner, John F. L.
Bryce, John Annan.
Burgoyne, Capt. Alan Hughes.
Burn, Colonel Charles Rosdew.
Burns, Rt. Hon. John.
Butcher, J. G.
Buxton, Noel.
Carew, Charles Robert S.
Carlile, Sir Edward Hildred.
Carnegie, Lieut.-Col. Douglas G.
Carr-Gomm, Captain H. W.
Cator, John.
Cautley, Henry Strother.
Cave, Rt. Hon. Sir George.
Cawley, Rt. Hon. Sir Frederick.
Cecil, Lord Hugh (Oxford University)
Cecil, Rt. Hon. Lord Robert (Hitchin).
Chancellor, Henry G.
Churchill, Rt. Hon. Winston S.
Clancy, John Joseph.
Clay, Captain H. H. Spender.
Clough, William.
Clynes, John R.
Coates, Major Sir E. F. (Lewisham).
Cochrane, Cecil Algernon.
Collins, Major G. P. (Greenock).
Collins, Sir Stephen (Lambeth).
Collins, Sir William J. (Derby).
Compton-Rickett, Rt. Hon. Sir J.
Condon, Thomas Joseph.
Coote, William.
Cornwall, Sir Edwin A.
Cory, James Herbert (Cardiff).
Cowan, Sir William Henry.
Craig, Ernest (Cheshire, Crewe).
Craig, Colonel James (Down, E.).
Craig, Norman (Kent, Thanet).
Croft, Brig.-Gen. Henry Page.
Crooks, Rt. Hon. William.
Crumley, Patrick.
Currie, George Welsh.
Dalrymple, Hon. H. Hamilton.
Dalziel, Rt. Hon. Sir J. H. (Kirkcaldy).
Davies, Ellis William (Eifion).
Davies, Timothy (Lincs., Louth).
Davies, Sir W. Howell (Bristol, S.).
Davies, M. Vaughan- (Cardigan).
Denman, Hon. Richard Douglas.
Denniss, Edmund R. Bartley.
Devlin, Joseph.
Dillon, John.
Doris, William.
Dougherty, Rt. Hon. Sir James B.
Duffy, William J.
Duke, Rt. Hon. Henry Edward.
Duncan, C. (Barrow-in-Furness).
Edwards, Sir Francis (Radnor).
Edwards, J. H. (Glamorgan, Mid).
Elverston, Sir Harold.
Faber, George D. (Clapham).
Falconer, James.
Fell, Arthur.
Ferens, Rt. Hon. Thomas Robinson.
Ffrench, Peter.
Field, William.
Finney, Samuel.
Fisher, Rt. Hon. H. A. L.
Fisher, Rt. Hon. W. Hayes (Fulham).
Flavin, Michael Joseph.
Fleming, Sir John.
Fletcher, John S.
Forster, Rt. Hon. Henry William.
France, Gerald Asburner.
Galbraith, Samuel.
Gelder, Sir William Alfred.
George, Rt. Hon. David Lloyd.
Gilbert, James Daniel.
Ginnell, Laurence.
Goddard, Rt. Hon. Sir Daniel F.
Goldman, Charles Sydney.
Goldstone, Frank (Sunderland).
Goulding, Sir Edward Alfred.
Greenwood, Sir G. G. (Peterborough)
Greig, Colonel James William.
Griffith, Rt. Hon. Ellis Jones.
Guest, Capt. Hon. F. E. (Dorset, E.).
Gulland, Rt. Hon. John William.
Gwynn, Stephen Lucius (Galway).
Hackett, John.
Haddock, Major George Bahr.
Hall, Capt. D. B. (Isle of Wight).
Hancock, John George.
Hanson, Charles Augustin.
Harmsworth, C. B. (Beds, Luton).
Harris, Henry P. (Paddington, S.).
Harris, Percy A. (Leicester, S.).
Harvey, A. G. C. (Rochdale).
Harvey, T. E. (Leeds, West).
Haslam, Lewis.
Healy, Maurice (Cork).
Hemmerde, Edward George.
Henderson, J. M. (Aberdeen, W.).
Herbert, Colonel Hon. Aubrey.
Hewart, Sir Gordon.
Hewins, William Albert Samuel.
Higham, John Sharp.
Hinds, John
Hoare, Lieut.-Col. Sir Samuel J. G.
Hodge, Rt. Hon. John.
Hogge, James Myles.
Hohler, Gerald Fitzroy
Holmes, Daniel Turner.
Holt, Richard Durning.
Hope, Lieut.-Col. J. (Midlothian).
Hope, John Deans (Haddington).
Houston, Robert Paterson.
Howard, Hon. Geoffrey W. A.
Hudson, Walter.
Hughes, Spencer Leigh.
Hume-Williams, Wm. Ellis.
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Jackson, Sir John (Devonport).
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Jardine, Sir John (Roxburghshire).
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Jones, J. Towyn (Carmarthen, E.).
Jones, Rt. Hon. L. (Notts, Rushcliffe).
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M'Laren, Hon. H. D. (Bosworth).
Maclean, Rt. Hon. Donald.
Macleod, John Mackintosh.
Macmaster, Donald.
M'Micking, Major Gilbert.
Macnamara, Rt. Hon. Dr. T. J.
MacNeill, J. G. Swift (Donegal, S.).
M'Neill, Ronald (St. Augustine's).
Macpherson, James Ian.
MacVeagh, Jeremiah.
Maden, Sir John Henry
Magnus, Sir Philip.
Malcolm, Ian.
Mallalieu, Frederick William.
Manfield, Harry.
Marks, Sir George Croydon.
Marriott, John Arthur R.
Marshall, Arthur Harold.
Martin, Joseph.
Mason, David M. (Coventry).
Meux, Adm. Hon. Sir Hedworth.
Middlebrook, Sir William.
Millar, James Duncan.
Molloy, Michael.
Mond, Rt. Hon. Sir Alfred.
Money, Sir L. G. Chiozza.
Montagu, Rt. Hon. E. S.
Morison, T. B. (Inverness-shire).
Morrell, Philip.
Morton, Alpheus Cleophas.
Muldoon, John.
Munro, Rt. Hon. Robert.
Neville, Reginald J. Neville.
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Nicholson, Wm. G. (Petersfield).
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O'Malley, William.
O'Neill, Dr. Charles (Armagh, S.).
O'Neill, Capt. Hon. R. (Antrim, Mid).
Orde-Powlett, Lieut.-Col. Hon. W. G.
Ormsby-Gore, Hon. William.
Parker, James (Halifax).
Parrott, Sir J. Edward.
Pearce, Sir Robert (Staffs, Leek).
Pearson, Weetman H. M.
Pease, Rt. Hon. Herbert Pike.
Peel, Lieut.-Col. R. F.
Pennefather, De Fonblanque.
Perkins, Walter Frank.
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Philipps, Capt. Sir O. C. (Chester)
Pollock, Ernest Murray.
Ponsonby, Arthur A. W. H.
Pratt, John William.
Pretyman, Rt. Hon. Ernest G
Price, C. E. (Edinburgh, Central)
Price, Sir Robert J. (Norfolk, E.)
Pringle, William M. R.
Prothero, Rt. Hon. Rowland E.
Pryce-Jones, Colonel Edward.
Radford, Sir George Heynes.
Raffan, Peter Wilson.
Randles, Sir John Scurrah.
Rawson, Colonel Richard H.
Rea, Walter Russell.
Rees, Griffith C. (Carnarvonshire)
Reid, Rt. Hon. Sir George H.
Remnant, Sir J. Farquharson.
Rendall, Athelstan.
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Smith, H. B. Lees (Northampton).
Smith, Sir Swire (Keighley).
Snowden, Philip.
Spear, Sir John Ward.
Spicer, Rt. Hon. Sir Albert.
Stanley, Rt. Hon. Sir A. (Ashton-under-Lyne).
Stanton, Charles Butt.
Starkey, Capt. John Ralph.
Steel-Maitland, A. D.
Strauss, Arthur (Paddington, N.).
Strauss, Edward A. (Southwark, W.)
Sutton, John E.
Swift, Rigby Philip Watson.
Sykes, Sir Mark (Hull, Central).
Taylor, John W. (Durham).
Taylor, Theodore C. (Radcliffe).
Tennant, Rt. Hon. Harold John.
Terrell, George (Wilts, N.W.).
Thomas, Rt. Hon. James Henry.
Thomas-Stanford, Charles.
Thomson, W. Mitchell- (Down, N.)
Thorne, G. R. (Wolverhampton).
Thorne, William (West Ham).
Tickler, Thomas George.
Tootill, Robert.
Touche, Sir George Alexander.
Toulmin, Sir George.
Trevelyan, Charles Philips.
Tryon, Captain George Clement.
Turton, Edmund Russborough.
Walters, Sir John Tudor.
Walton, Sir Joseph.
Ward, W. Dudley (Southampton).
Wardle, George James.
Warner, Sir T. Courtenay T.
Wason, Rt. Hon. E. (Clackmannan)
Wason, John Cathcart (Orkney).
Watson, J. B. (Stockton-on-Tees).
Watson, Hon. W. (Lanark, S.).
Watt, Henry Anderson
Wedgwood, Commander Josiah C.
Weston, Colonel John Wakefield.
White, James Dundas (Glasgow).
Whitehouse, John Howard.
Whiteley, Herbert J. (Droitwich).
Whittaker, Rt. Hon. Sir Thomas P
Whitty, Patrick Joseph.
Whyte, Alexander F. (Perth).
Wiles, Rt. Hon. Thomas.
Williams, Aneurin (Durham, N.W.).
Williams, Llewelyn (Carmarthen)
Williams, Penry (Middlesbrough).
Williams, Thomas J. (Swansea).
Williamson, Sir Archibald.
Wilson, Rt. Hon. J. W. (Worcester, N.).
Wilson, Captain Leslie (Reading).
Wilson, Lt.-Col. Sir M. (Bethnal Green)
Wilson, W. T. (Westhoughton).
Wing, Thomas Edward.
Wolmer, Viscount.
Wood, John (Stalybridge).
Wood, Rt. Hon. T. McKinnon (Glasgow)
Worthington-Evans, Sir L.
Yeo, Alfred William.
Younger, Sir George.
Yoxall, Sir James H.

TELLERS FOR THE AYES, Sir William Bull and Mr. Dickinson.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20TH.

Below are the names of the few stalwarts who voted against Women's Suffrage till the last :—

NOES.

Cecil, Rt. Hon. E. (Aston Manor).
Coats, Sir Stuart (Wimbledon).
Duncan, Sir Hastings (Otley).
Foster, Philip Staveley.
Gibbs, Colonel George Abraham.
Gretton, Colonel John.
Gwynne, R. S. (Sussex, Eastbourne).
Hardy, Rt. Hon. Laurence.
Hope, James Fitzalan (Sheffield).
Hunt, Major Rowland.
Lloyd, G. Butler (Shrewsbury).
Mackinder, Halford J.
Peto, Basil Edward.
Rawlinson, John Frederick Peel.
Talbot, Lord Edmund.
Yate, Colonel Charles Edward.
Young, William (Perth, East).

TELLERS FOR THE NOES, Sir Frederick Banbury and Colonel Sir Robert Williams.

Notes and News.

Real Representation.

The question of real Parliamentary representation is inseparably mingled with the question of the right use of the vote. It is not enough to possess voting powers, great though the indirect value of such powers are to their possessor. The elector is pleased at the time of an election to cast his vote on the side where his political sympathies and convictions are enlisted; but if, when the election is over, his party is defeated, he may find that for many years to come the constituency in which he lives is represented in the House of Commons by a member who is very far, indeed, from representing the elector in question. This unfortunate result of contested elections is inevitable when constituencies are so small that they can only return one member; but with bigger constituencies, and more members for each of them, it would be possible for substantial minorities to be represented. Those who, like our readers, are eager to make the best use of their votes when they get them, cannot help feeling a considerable degree of interest in the moderate and experimental proposals for Proportional Representation which are set for in the present Reform Bill. It was not a little unfortunate that the Instructions to the Boundary Commissioners gave an opportunity for raising the subject when the House was scarcely prepared to consider it. The Speaker, however, has informed the leaders of the Proportional Representation movement that when Clause 15 of the Bill is reached in Committee, the matter can be discussed fully. In the meantime it is to be hoped that some of the main underlying ideas will be brought home to the public in a lucid and convincing manner. Hitherto much has been said about transferable votes and similar details of mechanism, but hardly enough, perhaps, about the vital object of attainment—namely, more complete representation.

Doves and Serpents, Windmills and Easels.

There have been some gleams of imagination in the debate this week. Some were intentional—*e.g.*, those of Lord Hugh Cecil, who referred to the Speaker's Conference as "a sinister consultation between doves and serpents." "Which was Sir Frederick Banbury?" asked an hon. member. "My Honourable Friend," said Lord Hugh, gazing pensively across the House at the determined countenance of the member for the City, "can only be compared to the Dove which did not return to the Ark." Those who remember Sir Frederick Banbury's withdrawal from the Speaker's Conference will remark the aptness of the reply.

But even more refreshing to the imagination were the dark but fascinating pictures of what might happen to England, drawn by the speakers on the Local Government Clause, who let themselves go about the danger of "faggot-voting."

Supposing a man were to acquire some land of the real value or extent, and erect on it *something*—here the imaginative play came in—which he would then bestow on the husband of a female relative. *He*, the aforesaid master-builder, would be on the Local Government Register, and *she*, the female relation, would have a Parliamentary vote! "Once there had been a man who erected a windmill." . . . One at once pictured England covered with tiny windmills tenanted by the wives of the nephews, of the grandsons, of the kind uncles of sinister wire-pullers, who would use them to control the fortunes of the nation. A delightful mixture of Ollendorf and Hans Andersen, but now dangerous! Another picture quickly followed. A man might buy a plot of land and divide it up into allotments no bigger than pocket handkerchiefs, and give them to all his sons-in-law—England appeared in one's mental mirror as a looking-glass land divided into a checker work of minute gardens with the small black-and-white wives of pawns hurrying to the polling-station. But worse was to follow. Three maiden ladies might buy a room, and furnish it with three easels, and call it "a studio," and all three have votes. Before that picture of three Fates (in addition to the orthodox ones) meddling with the destinies of the Empire, the imagination reeled—especially when one realised that these three, being spinsters, might have *no men at all to control them.*

Greetings from Finland.

A letter has been received by Mrs. Fawcett from Miss Annie Furuhjelm. "I am so glad," she writes, "the prospect of Women's Suffrage in your country is promising. Surely you English women deserve to be enfranchised, because you have had a political education, and now you have worked so valiantly for your country."

HEALTH WORK.

A deputation from the National Union of Women Workers, consisting of the President, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, the Lady Emmott, Miss E. M. Eaton, Miss E. C. Harvey, and Mrs. Summerton, was received on 14th inst. at the Local Government Board office by Lord Rhondda, Sir Horace Monro, Sir A. Newsholme, and Mr. Stutchbury. The object of the deputation was to speak in support of the three resolutions passed by the Executive Committee of the National Union of Women Workers at its meeting held on May 4th, which run as follows:—

1. "The Executive of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland cordially approve of the proposals for the unification of health work in England and Wales under a Ministry of Health, and urge that, with a view to public economy and efficiency, such Ministry shall combine the functions of the National Health Insurance Commissions of England and Wales, both on the medical and on the financial sides, with such functions of the Local Government Board (other than Poor Law) and of the Board of Education as are correlated with these, care being taken to retain the free choice of doctor and midwife and other cardinal features of the Insurance Acts.

2. "The Executive further urge that coincidently with this centralisation of health matters in a Ministry of Health, arrangements should be made for securing in each locality a closer co-operation between the Public Health Committee and the corresponding Health Insurance Committee, so that their respective activities shall be co-ordinated in combined schemes of work, under the supervision of the Ministry of Health.

3. "The Executive further urge that, whatever changes be initiated, care be taken to preserve some close link between the Ministry of Health for England and Wales and the Scottish and Irish Insurance Commissions, and also between the working of the Insurance Committees and Approved Societies in England and Wales and that of the kindred bodies in Scotland and Ireland, in order that adequate uniformity of administration shall be maintained in matters where this is necessary in the interests of insured persons."

Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon spoke in support of the formation of a Ministry of Health to deal with all matters relating to health, with the exception of such as pertain to medical inspection and supervision in the clauses which are administered under the Board of Education. In this connection Mrs. Gordon expressed the hope that when the schools extended their system of continuation work medical supervision would also be extended to cover the period from fourteen up to sixteen years of age, at which age the wage-earning boys and girls come under the National Health Insurance scheme. In connection with the maternity cash benefits, Mrs. Gordon asked for an assurance that there was no intention to remove the present system of payments under the Insurance Acts from the Approved Societies, and Lord Rhondda confirmed his statement of March last on this point. The President further stated that the N.U.W.W. urged that a special grant should be made to enable a maternity allowance to be given to all women whose own income or whose husband's income is below £160, and, further, that without delay an extension of powers be given to local health authorities in England and Wales so as to enable them to proceed with adequate schemes for maternity and child welfare clinics, maternity homes, &c., for which payment should be made from the rates.

In reply, Lord Rhondda stated that there had been no suggestion of suppressing any part of the State Insurance administration, but that the question before Government was simply how to co-ordinate the health activities at present carried on under different authorities, and to prepare for the great national work of reconstruction in matters relating to health and housing.

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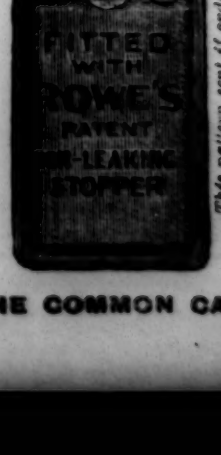

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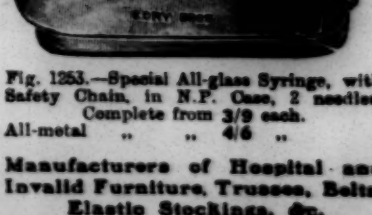

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The Woman Factory Worker.

OVERTIME WORK.

The Annual Report lately issued by H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories shows that considerable improvement was effected during last year as regards overtime work. Although applications for relaxation of the law have been numerous, there has been a notable decrease in the requests for the long hours that were common in the early months of the year :—

"It is fairly well recognised now that continuous and excessive overtime very soon produces lassitude and slackness among the workers, and injuriously affects efficiency and both the quality and quantity of work. In one weaving factory special records were kept, when the normal hours of 55½ a week were increased for sixteen weeks to 58, and for four weeks to 65½. The output did not increase in proportion, and the difference was more marked when working the 65½-hour weeks. On the other hand, a moderate amount of overtime, judiciously arranged, has given satisfactory results."

THE SUBSTITUTION OF WOMEN FOR MEN.

The substitution of women goes steadily on, though it is doubtful, says Miss Anderson in her section of the Report, whether substitution "has progressed as far as it can and ought in the present national emergency." One of the women factory inspectors suggests that in many cases progress has been made proportionately to the pressure brought to bear by Military Tribunals, and that, so long as men's labour can be got, few employers will experiment with women's, though once the experiment is made, satisfaction is expressed with the result.

This view is borne out by the slow progress made in certain skilled and semi-skilled operations for which there are agreements, and which are eminently suited to women's capacities. Miss Taylor instances the electro-plate and silver and the clothing trades. Progress there is quite uneven. In a large clothing factory, where no women were in the cutting department before the war, 43 per cent. are now women, and at the same time other large factories have still no women in that department. In the pottery trade, says Miss Constance Smith, "the result of substitution, if not numerically great, has been of much importance to the trade." "It was impossible to effect replacement in certain most important processes without abrogation of Trade Union rules and customs on the one hand, and Pottery Regulations on the other. This was happily effected with the goodwill and co-operation of manufacturers and workpeople, and women are for the period of the war permitted to take part in glost placing and one or two other operations from which they were previously debarred."

There appears to be no shortage of women's labour except in certain industries where a low pre-war standard of wages and conditions exists. Most of the inspectors are agreed that any local shortage that appears is mainly in women's own industries, and there simply through persistence of low pre-war standards of wages and welfare. "In one country district a large paper mill was able to get all the women's labour it needed by arranging a half-time system for married women with excellent conditions in the works, and extension of this method in other districts will probably increase the available supply, should that be needed, of women's labour."

Where women are considered unsatisfactory, too, Miss Anderson has generally found that the standard of comfort or of wages has been too low to attract competent workers. Where good wages are paid, "a peculiarly exhilarating and stimulating effect" has been produced, and the women have proved capable of doing even very heavy work. In fact, states Miss Anderson :—

"It appears that the one absolute limit to the replacement of men by women lies in those heavy occupations and processes where adaptation of plant or appliances cannot be effected so as to bring them within the compass even of selected women of physical capacity above the normal. Very surprising, however, is the outcome of careful selection, even in fairly heavy work—in rubber manufacture, paper mills, oil-cake and seed-crushing mills, shale-oil works, shipyards, iron and tube works, chemical works, gas works and stacking of coal, tan yards, coarse ware and brick-making, flour-milling, and other trades. 'If they stick this, they will stick anything,' a manager is reported as saying of the grit and pluck of the women in a gas-works in the recent severe weather. It is permissible to wonder whether some of the surprise and admiration freely expressed in many quarters over new proofs of women's physical capacity and endurance is not in part attributable to lack of knowledge or appreciation of the very heavy and strenuous nature of much of normal pre-war work for women, domestic and industrial."

It is very difficult, Miss Anderson considers, to estimate how far, if at all, heavy work has caused any physical injury. Complaints from the workers themselves are very rarely received. "The keenness, especially of the young girls, is pathetic." As regards heavy work in gas works, one of the women factory inspectors reports :—

"In no case has there been any complaint of the effect on their health. On the contrary, it is our invariable experience in all outdoor labouring to find health and appetite greatly improved by work in the open air. It is evident that special clothing must be provided, as well as lighter shovels and harrows."

Among the skilled or semi-skilled processes in which women have been substituted after improvised training, Miss Anderson instances :—Machine and hand-clicking of leather in the boot and shoe trade, glazing in leather works, sorting in the brush trade, acetylene welding in heavy metals, galvanising in metal trade, assisting twist hands in lace trade, driving electric overhead cranes, employment in electric sub-stations, cutting with power knife and band knife, cutting in heavy clothing, wick-making in candle works, stamping in soap works, laboratory work in chemical manufacture, French polishing in furniture works, feeding and taking-off at boring-machines, and saw-milling.

On the whole, Miss Anderson considers that there has been considerable gain to the nation from the enlargement of women's sphere of work :—"The national gain appears to me to be overwhelming, as against all risks of loss or disturbance, in the new self confidence engendered in women by the very considerable proportion of cases where they are efficiently doing men's work at men's rates of pay. If this new valuation can be reflected on to their own special and often highly-skilled and nationally indispensable occupations, a renaissance may here be effected of far greater significance even than the immediate widening of women's opportunities, great as that is. Under-valuation there in the past has been the bane of efficiency, and has meant a heavy loss to the nation."

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Suitable for dresses, coats, and skirts, and the fashionable coat-frocks. In plain white in various size cords, also white grounds with sky, butcher, pink, hello, brown, grey, or black, in fine, medium, and bold cords.
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BABY WEEK

(July 1—7. 1917.)

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Ordinary town milk swarms with germs.

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is pure, clean, free from germs, and easily digested—that is why babies thrive on it.

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NO! ***Not if we can prevent it!***

WE at home are beginning to learn what shortage of food means, but our fellow countrymen in Germany would actually die of hunger if we did not send them food and comforts.

Away from all they hold dear, at the mercy of a ruthless and unscrupulous foe, they pine and would starve without parcels from home.

The need is pressing; the number is increasing; we *must* not relax our efforts to maintain the supply.

The Royal Savoy Association which has done this work successfully for two years, is now in urgent need of funds to meet the increasing demand.

Contributions will be gratefully acknowledged by the Editor of this paper, or the Rev. Hugh B. Chapman,
Royal Savoy Association,
7, Savoy Hill,
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The Hour for Freedom.

If anybody had told Women Suffragists in the spring of 1914 that they would get their full citizenship at a time when they would want it ten times more than they did then, many of them would have answered at once that it was impossible. Some of those who were working then had already spent more than half a life-time in the effort. They were the clear-sighted ones of their generation—the pioneers:—

"By rose-hung river and light foot rill,
There are who rest not; who think long,
Till they discern, as from a hill,
At the sun's hour of morning song,
Known of souls only, and those souls free,
The sacred spaces of the sea."

More belonged to the generation which had grown up under the influence of the great awakening to social consciousness in average persons which had begun in the last years of the nineteenth century. All were acutely aware of the great and urgent social problems waiting to be solved, of the weight of preventible evil under which creation groaned and travailed, of the mass of work there was to be done. For a few years at the very beginning of the new century, the activities of the rising generation had indeed been depressed by a rather despairing feeling that nothing much could be affected by political means, and that even philanthropy, unless very strictly regulated by what were—perhaps unfairly—called "C.O.S. methods," would probably do more harm than good. But this vanished after 1905. Politics and philanthropy both seemed slow ways towards establishing the "good life" of the community, but there was no doubt that they, with the even slower way of education, were the only ways. The difficulty for the young women who were more or less free to chose their own work was to know which of the three ways to take. Education was, perhaps, the surest, but it was very slow, and it was hampered and impeded and choked to death in a thousand ways. For the mass of the people it could only be kept alive by public money, and the majority of those who had the control of public money thought it less important than almost anything else. They assumed that higher education was only for the few; that the children of the poor could learn all that was necessary before they reached adolescence; that school teachers could exist on less than a living wage. The education of the children of the rich was almost as cribbed, cabined, and confined by convention as that of the poor was by lack of means. The individual educationalist had a hard task. Pioneers of girls' education had many of them come to doubt whether political freedom was not essential for further progress. The progress of education, it was clear, depended on legislation, so the most enthusiastic teachers became Suffragists almost to a woman, and young women who were considering a teaching career began to wonder whether representation in the Parliament which controlled education was not the first thing to strive for. The same thing happened to the women who had sufficient leisure and capital to obtain training for the work of factory inspectors, or health inspectors, or for the few other administrative posts that had been opened to women by the labours of the pioneers. They could help administer the law, but when they wanted to reform a bad or an indifferent law—of which there were, and are, too many—they were helpless, because they were not represented in Parliament. As for the social workers, they gallantly carried on a long weary struggle with results, and helped individuals; but they could not change the conditions whence the results came, and which, too, often seemed to leave no chance at all to individuals. So more and more women came to feel that the first thing to do was to gain their freedom, in order that they might afterwards use it for service, and the number of working Suffragists grew.

The women who chose Suffrage as their work had, however, to give up a good deal, not only leisure and enjoyment—these are necessarily sacrificed by both men and women who make the service of the community their first object—but also (what was more difficult) opportunities of immediate helpfulness and of constructive work. And all this to undertake a kind of toil for which many of them had no vocation whatever, and the usefulness of which could only be kept in mind by a constant exercise of imagination and thought. Delay followed delay, and while they were using up their lives in the effort to get their hands untied, the gigantic evils of our defective civilisation continued to grow. Children died or grew up halt and maimed from overcrowding and under-feeding, women were sweated to death, infancy and youth and age were exploited, the waste of human life went on, and the long and apparently fruitless struggle of the Suffragists seemed but an addition to it. It was hardly surprising that some of them had ceased to cultivate the "painful patience in delays" which seemed to the others an essential part of the service of their ideal.

Such was the position by the spring of 1914. Then came the war. The struggle for domestic freedom was merged in a wider struggle—men and women of all classes and parties and schools of thought united to defend and sustain the country and the ideals of the race. The women did not for the most part have the opportunity of giving the supreme service which was the part of the young men, but they did have the opportunity of working in many new ways and of showing the spirit of citizenship, which had been growing up among them. How eagerly they seized the opportunity is now admitted by all. Not Suffragists alone, but many thousands of women of all kinds turned with passionate eagerness to those practical tasks which are so much more congenial to most women than any political work.

And while they were doing it, the conviction suddenly dawned on their fellow-countrymen that these were a part of the people ready for full citizenship. So now the day of freedom is at hand, and it has come when we want it as never before. For the present is a time of need and a time of hope such as the country has not known for many generations. The strain upon all of us now is very great, and it is probable that it will grow greater as the days go on. The Bishop of Oxford has recently said: "I do not believe that the end of the war when it comes, however much relief it will bring, can fail to be accompanied with such strenuous and searching requirements as will make the strain of war seem a comparatively light thing. Then I entertain the hope that this great deepening of the sense of service, coupled with this positive transformation in openness of mind which is coming upon people of all classes and sorts, I feel sure that this must be going to give us a vast opportunity, the like of which we never anticipated."*

Dr. Gore believes that what has given us the opportunity is the collapse of that part of civilisation which was based on selfishness. We shall be able to profit by it only if the different sections of the nation are ready to put aside selfishness, and strive for the common good. Then indeed our "reconstruction" may be a rebirth for the nation. Here the long training of Suffragists—perhaps we might almost say of women—will be of use. They will get their freedom in a great and difficult hour of their country's history. They will use it, we dare to believe, in a spirit of unselfishness, remembering that "the making (and the remaking) of nations requires the self-sacrifice of thousands of obscure men and women who care more for the idea of country than for their own comfort or interest, their own lives or the lives of those they love." This is certainly the hour for freedom!

I. B. O'M.

* See "The Hope for Society, Essays on Social Reconstruction After the War" (published by G. Bell & Sons, 3s.). The papers in this interesting little book were originally given in the form of lectures at the Interdenominational Summer School, at Swanwick, Derbyshire, in July, 1916.

Seen in Perspective.

It is difficult for those who are to-day taking part in the world-drama which is pursuing its tragic course to judge what will be the chief points which will, in the end, stand out as of most absorbing interest and of most significance to that distant audience who, a generation hence, from the theatre which the future will provide, will watch the play through to its last scene, and will be able to exercise a calm and dispassionate judgment on the tragedy and on the actors. Seen thus in perspective, they will note how, the floodgates once opened, fate, stern and irresistible, took charge of the scene, insisting on each act being carried through to its logical conclusion. Only the best troops, the heaviest ammunition, the wisest leadership could bring success in the field; isolated acts, whether heroic or fearful, could not influence the decision. At the same time, at home in the countries which engaged in the terrific struggle, fate again insists that logic shall govern, that truth must prevail, that mere rhetoric and empty phrases must be converted into acts. England and her Allies have stood forward as protectors of the weak and as guardians of liberty, and with that goal before them they have found it impossible any longer to maintain within their own walls the hindrances which have hitherto shackled the weak and fettered freedom. It was impossible that Russia should save others whilst herself unsaved, her own right must be established before she can talk of protecting the rights of others.

Britain, too, has talked much of free democracy as opposed to autocratic government, and to-day she is asked to accept the full consequences of her professions. There can be no drawing back; she must follow the path which she has chosen. Unlike her Allies, France and Russia, she has for long centuries been moving, very slowly it is true, but quite surely, along the road on which France a hundred years ago and Russia to-day have swiftly overtaken her. Only a few steps remain between her and the goal, and when to-day one of those steps, a very big stride, is to be taken, hardly a voice is lifted among her children to endeavour to hold her back. What has always actuated those who opposed liberty either for men or for women has been fear. Now the timid have learnt the meaning of *real* fear; they know what it is truly and with reason to be afraid, and that knowledge has swept away the old nightmares from all but a very few brains.

The working man in old days was a real object of terror to many. He was regarded as a danger to the State, in which it was considered that he had not sufficient interest to make him seek its welfare. Now that same working man proves to be the one defence of the State against outward aggression; he stands as the only bulwark against foreign invasion with all its terrors, and the very people who not so very long ago could not speak of him with patience, are to-day foremost in claiming for him the rights of full citizenship. Have a khaki coat and a rifle so disguised the working man that he is no longer recognisable as a former object of apprehension?

These good folk were also, in those past days, mortally afraid of woman. They dreaded every step which might take her from her dish-washing or her cradle-rocking as disastrous to the Empire. There would be no peace, they declared, until she had once more learnt to stay within doors, safely guarded in the home of her husband, who was to be not her companion, but her gaoler; every advance from her doorstep, every attempt to do work which should be strictly reserved for men, would be a removal of a corner-stone in the structure of society, and must in the end be fatal to the State. But to-day, in her man's attire, she stands as a defence to the State, as a saviour in the path of famine—truly a "loaf giver"—upholding an Empire which, but for her aid, must inevitably crash to the ground, active in every labour which will save the life of the nation and enable it to go forward to a destiny which will surely be as great as the men and women who are its defence. Will it not be for their own salvation as well as for the salvation of others that the nations will be found to have fought and suffered?

V. E.

CAN A WOMAN BE PETTY SESSIONS CLERK?

MADAM,—A reader of the statement of Miss Frost's case has written to the Women's Local Government Society offering to give ten guineas if £55 is collected by July 12th, the collection not to include subscriptions under £1. This would bring the fund started by Mrs. Haslam up to £100, a substantial portion of the actual legal expenses.

We feel sure that there must be many of those interested in the participation of women in public life, as administrators and as officials, who will gladly aid an appeal against the decision in the Chancery Division that Miss Frost (three times unanimously appointed by the local justices) is incapable *on account of her sex* of being Petty Sessions Clerk.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) ANNIE LEIGH BROWNE, Hon. Sec., W.L.G.S.
MARIAN BERRY, Secretary, W.L.G.S.

[Subscriptions may be sent to Lady Lockyer, Hon. Treasurer, The Women's Local Government Society, 19, Tothill Street, Westminster, S.W. 1, marked "For Miss Frost's Case."]

Hedgers and Ditchers.

We are the Hedgers and Ditchers of note,
Extremely unwilling that women should vote,
Brave Ditchers and Hedgers are we!
In the Hedges of sophistry cover we find,
But in this (the last) *Ditch we will make up our mind—*
If the last it should happen to be.
(Anti-Suffrage Song : "The Last Referendum but Several.")

The Anti-Suffragists have called out their corps of Hedgers and Ditchers for active service. It is a sure sign that Women's Suffrage is nearing victory when the Hedgers and Ditchers are out and about, as they have been with increasing feverishness and turmoil these last weeks. Some of the corps hedge for safety; others are dramatically ready to fight and die in the last ditch (which on their maps is a good way off); but, as a rule, they hedge or they ditch according as the embarrassments of their position may dictate.

The hedging takes all kinds of forms. There is the favourite device of declaring that some kind of Women's Suffrage (but never the present kind) would be perfect. A little while ago we used to hear that if women were to vote, then the married women were the right electors. Now, when the Bill before Parliament offers the vote to many married women, the Hedgers declare that these women are too old. Another opponent finds they are too young. Mr. Arthur Baumann talks bitterly of a "constituency of four or five million men and women . . . half of whom are boys and girls," while at the same time *The Morning Post* thinks that thirty is too old for a woman to be a "personable Delilah," and therefore that the women electors will not be young enough.

While the *Morning Post's* leader writer might give the vote to Delilah, its favoured correspondent, Sir Almroth Wright (to whom it accords some two columns of space) would give it only to Samson. He is a champion of what we may term Mrs. Humphry Ward's "blood and bone" school, but he goes a great deal further, and is, in his way, more consistent. He is more, in short, of the Ditcher than the Hedger. The "strong man armed" is to have the vote, and only he. Strength is relative: that point he leaves aside. But he is to this degree consistent, that he would disfranchise the man who was no longer a passable Samson. He is, so far as we know, the first "Anti" who has publicly declared that he would take away votes from men who were old or infirm, as well as from a good many other persons who did not play a fighter's part. Presumably, the "medically unfit" would be disqualified from voting. Elderly members of Parliament and members with a doubtful bill of health would be struck off the register. But if they are unfit to vote, are they fit to govern? Where is the Cabinet of pugilists worthy to represent an electorate of Samsons? We search Sir Almroth Wright's pugnacious sentences vainly for a reply. He does not even tell us how much physical vigour or violence is to qualify for a vote, or what is to happen when the strong man armed meets a man stronger than he.

Curiously enough, Sir Almroth Wright is under the impression that he cannot bear autocracy (which is frequently associated with violence), and that he loves democracy. He predicts that after the war we shall "more than ever before need to use coercive force to keep peace in the world and to prevent anyone taking the law into his own hands to gain advantage over his neighbour." He would, therefore, democratically compel the female part of the democracy to relinquish most of the decently paid work they are now doing, and he also sees his way to compel women in the most democratic manner "to become the mothers of sons for the State"—there being, of course, no supernumerary daughters in a thoroughly scientific, democratic, and muscular State. Sir Almroth Wright conjures up a nightmare world in which we should all be governed by Behemoths and Leviathans, by cordite and Tanks—which, after all, are far stronger than our poor human Samsons—and, behold, he finds it very good and not a bit autocratic. Certainly Sir Almroth is no Hedger.

The majority of the Hedger and Ditcher corps pin their hopes on a Referendum. It must not, of course, be just any Referendum, but one of their own planning. The Anti-Suffragist chooses the set of people to whom he will put the question, and he chooses also the form in which the question should be put. It is odd that he does not care to refer his question to Parliament. Perhaps he finds the House of Commons a little unsympathetic, with the habit it has lately developed of cheering the mention of women's work and Women's Suffrage, and of being silently unimpressed when he himself is speaking. But even quite a nicely planned Referendum might still ask for Women's Suffrage. People up and down the land have an awkward way of listening to Anti-Suffragists, and then saying that, all the same, they cannot see why the women of this country—women of whom they are proud—should not have votes.

Every week these ordinary, average, unpeculiar people are saying more and more firmly that men and women work for their country, make sacrifices for their country, and should have a voice in the affairs of their country. They say to the Anti-Suffragists they are tired of them and of their domination, tired of watching them seek that last Ditch, which they do not mean to find. They say to them in effect :—"You have your votes if you are men; you might have them if you are women. How miserable it is that you should use every subterfuge to prevent other women from taking part in the concerns of their own race and nation!"

M. H.

NATIONAL BABY WEEK.

Her Majesty has kindly consented to be a Patron of National Baby Week, and to open the National Baby Week Exhibition at the Central Hall, Westminster, on July 2nd (Monday), at 2.15 p.m.

She will also send a message to the Meeting of Health Workers to be held at the Guildhall on Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The programme will be as follows :—

Sunday, July 1st.—Sermons at Westminster Abbey, Regent's Park Chapel, City Temple, and at many local churches.

Monday, July 2nd.—2.15 p.m. Opening of the National Baby Week Exhibition, Central Hall, Westminster. 3 p.m. Meeting at the Guildhall.

Tuesday, July 3rd.—10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Exhibition at Central Hall. 6 p.m. Mass Meeting for Mothers, at Central Hall, Westminster.

Wednesday, July 4th.—10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Exhibition at Central Hall. 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Conference at Central Hall; "The Present Position of Midwifery Work in Urban Areas." 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. "Rural Midwifery."

Thursday, July 5th.—10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Exhibition at Central Hall. 8 p.m. Mass Meeting at Central Hall. Judge Neil and others speaking on "Widows' Pensions."

Friday, July 6th.—10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Exhibition at Central Hall. 11 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Twenty-first Annual Conference Parents' National Educational Union, at Bedford College, York Gate, Regent's Park, N.W. 5 p.m. Meeting at 34, Queen Anne's Gate (by kind permission of Lady Glenconner), to discuss "The best means of Increasing the Supply of Practising Midwives," under the auspices of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives. The meeting will be attended by H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein; The Lord Balfour of Burleigh (in the Chair). Speakers: E. W. Hope, Esq., M.D.; Miss Amy Hughes; Lady M. Egerton; Miss Paget, &c.

Saturday, July 7th.—10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Exhibition at the Central Hall, Westminster. 2 p.m. Infant Welfare Competition at the Exhibition. 11 a.m. Demonstration of Children's Work by the London School of Dalcroze Eurhythmics, Prince's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.

Owing to the danger from air raids it has been decided to abandon the processions of mothers and babies arranged for Baby Week.

OUR SPECIAL BABY NUMBER.

In connection with Baby Week we are bringing out on June 29th a special number containing valuable articles on various questions connected with the welfare of mothers and children. We hope that all our readers will do their best to promote its sale, as the number should be very useful for propaganda purposes, showing, as it will, how closely the Women's Movement is connected with every effort to safeguard the children of the nation.

Sellers Wanted.

Volunteers are wanted to sell this number of The Common Cause at the meetings held during Baby Week in London and the Provinces.

ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE TRAINING AND SUPPLY OF MIDWIVES.

A Drawing-Room Meeting on behalf of the work of the above Association was held by kind invitation of Mrs. McKinnon Wood, at 16, Portland Place, on June 14th.

The Association, through Mrs. Wood's hospitality, was able to explain to new friends and gain fresh support for its work in training midwives. Mrs. Ebden, Chairman of the Association, pointed out the fact that no measures for safeguarding infant life can be effective without the initial necessity of skilled care at childbirth. Hundreds of women admirably suited for district midwifery found the outlay of £40 or £50 for training a practical impossibility. The Association's funds were mainly devoted to the training of such women, who, if unassisted and therefore untrained, could never be of national service as qualified midwives.

This was emphasised by Mrs. Scharlieb and Mrs. Wallace Bruce, Miss Lucy Robinson, and Mr. Leon, all most active members of the Association, urged its claims on the generosity of the public. The Rt. Hon. T. McKinnon Wood, who presided, spoke of the work undertaken as of the highest philanthropy, and asked for support on patriotic grounds.

Support for Women's Suffrage.

THE following evidence of the overwhelming volume of the support for the political enfranchisement of women appeared in *The Times* of June 19th in the form of a manifesto signed by the honorary officers of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and supported by :—

Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, Liberal Women's Suffrage Union, Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation, Church League for Women's Suffrage, Free Church League for Women's Suffrage, Friends' League for Women's Suffrage, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, Scottish Churches League for Women's Suffrage, Women's Freedom League, New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage, Women's Suffrage Propaganda League, Actresses Franchise League, Women's Tax Resistance League, Scottish University Women's Suffrage Union, National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, National Council for Adult Suffrage, United Suffragists, Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

PARLIAMENT.

Twenty Bills to confer the franchise upon duly qualified women have been introduced into the House of Commons and one into the House of Lords. Seven times such Bills have passed their Second Reading :—

Mr. Jacob Bright's Bill, 1870—Majority for, 33
Mr. Faithfull Begg's Bill, 1897—Majority for, 71
Mr. Howard's Bill, 1909—Majority for, 35
Mr. Woodall's Bill, 1886—Without a division
Mr. Stanger's Bill, 1908—Majority for, 179
First Conciliation Bill, July, 1910—Majority for, 109
Second Conciliation Bill, May, 1911—Majority for, 167

407 Members of the present House of Commons have voted for or promised their support to Woman Suffrage. (The number includes many whose support has been won by the experiences of war time.)

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Seven County Councils, 9 London Borough Councils, 109 City and Town Councils, 37 Urban and District Councils, and a number of Rural and District Councils and Parish Councils petitioned Parliament in favour of Woman Suffrage in 1912.

ORGANISED LABOUR.

131 Trades Councils and 149 Trade Unions, including considerably over 400 branches, have declared their support of Women's Suffrage.

POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS.

The undermentioned Political Associations have repeatedly passed resolutions in support of one or more of the Woman Suffrage Bills before Parliament :—

National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, Scottish National Union of Conservative Associations, Northern Union of Conservative Associations, Welsh Division of National Union of Conservative Associations, National Liberal Federation, the Scottish Liberal Association, Welsh National Liberal Association, the National League of Young Liberals, Convention of Scottish Burghs, National Labour Party, Trade Union Congress, Scottish Trade Union Congress, Independent Labour Party, Fabian Society.

NATIONAL SOCIETIES OF WOMEN.

The undermentioned National Societies of Women, organized for political, industrial, and philanthropic purposes, have repeatedly demanded this reform :—

National Union of Women Workers, Women's Liberal Federation, Women's National Liberal Association, National British Women's Temperance Association, Women's Co-operative Guild, National Women's Labour League, National Federation of Women Workers, Women's Industrial Council, Scottish Union Women's Temperance Association, Welsh Women's Liberal Federation, Association of Headmistresses in Secondary Schools, Incorporated Association of Assistant Mistresses, Railway Women's Guild, Society of Registered Nurses, International Council of Women, Scottish Women's Liberal Federation.

THE PRESS.

The undermentioned organs of public opinion, together with an overwhelming proportion of the Provincial Press, advocate the Enfranchisement of Women :—

Times, Observer, Manchester Guardian, Daily Telegraph, Sunday Times, Daily News and Leader, Daily Chronicle, Daily Mail, Spectator, Nation, New Statesman, Westminster Gazette, Evening News, Evening Standard, Daily Mirror, Daily Graphic, Star, Weekly Dispatch, Queen, Lady's Pictorial, Ladies' Field, Referee, Herald, Labour Leader, Christian Commonwealth, Scotsman, Glasgow Herald, Daily Express, Athenæum.

THE PUBLIC.

Great Petitions have been presented to Parliament representing over one million men and women, 1,747 such petitions being presented before 1905. Among those presented at a later date were the petition of 280,000 PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS (1909 and 1910), and of 538 out of the whole number of 553 Women Doctors (1908), and in the month of May of this year (1917) 3,709 girls doing the work of men, or doing munition work in Sheffield and Rotherham alone, have petitioned Parliament.

THE MOVEMENT IS WORLD-WIDE.

IN THE WORDS OF SIR ROBERT BORDEN, "THERE IS AN IRRESISTIBLE TENDENCY TO GIVE THE WOMANHOOD OF THE EMPIRE THE RIGHT TO HAVE AN ADEQUATE VOICE IN THE GOVERNMENT."

The undermentioned countries have already enfranchised women :—

WITHIN THE EMPIRE :—New Zealand, 1893. **Australia.—S.** Australia, 1893 ; West Australia, 1899 ; New South Wales, 1902 ; Commonwealth of Australia, 1902 ; Tasmania, 1903 ; Queensland, 1905 ; Victoria, 1909. **Canada.** —Manitoba, 1916-1917 ; Alberta, 1916-1917 ; Saskatchewan, 1916-1917 ; British Columbia, 1916-1917 ; Nova Scotia, 1917 ; Ontario—for the Provincial Legislature. The Premier of Canada has announced that before his Government appeals to the Country he will introduce a measure of Women's Suffrage for the Dominion Parliament.

BEYOND THE EMPIRE :—United States. Full equal Suffrage—Wyoming, 1869 ; Colorado, 1803 ; Utah, 1895 ; Idaho, 1896 ; Washington, 1910 ; California, 1911 ; Oregon, 1912 ; Kansas, 1912 ; Arizona, 1912 ; Illinois, 1913, Presidential and Municipal ; Alaska (Terr.), 1913, Full equal Suffrage ; Montana, 1914, Full equal Suffrage ; Nevada (Territory), 1914, Full equal Suffrage ; Ohio, 1917, Presidential and Municipal ; N. Dakota, 1917 ; Indiana, 1917, Presidential and Municipal ; Michigan, 1917, Presidential and Municipal ; Rhode Island, 1917, Presidential ; Nebraska, 1917, Presidential and Municipal. Finland, 1907. Norway (Partial Suffrage), 1907. Norway (Full Suffrage), 1913. Denmark, 1915. Iceland, 1915.

The Speaker's Conference on Electoral Reform reported in February, 1917, by a majority vote in favour of enfranchising women on the basis now embodied in Clause IV. of the Representation of the People Bill.

The success of the Women's Suffrage cause and the passing of the Women's Suffrage part of the Bill was assured on June 19th, when an Anti-Suffragist Amendment to omit the Clause was defeated by vote of 385 to 55—a vote of 7 to 1. The House of Commons passed the Clause on June 20th—a date which may be said to mark the triumph of Women's Suffrage in the United Kingdom.

Some Housing Suggestions for Professional Women.

The need for some place where educated women can be received with their children grows in ever-increasing urgency day by day. Increasing food prices and decreasing incomes make it imperative for so many nowadays to live in the cheapest possible way, that house after house, and flat after flat, is being given up as soon as arrangements can be made for the sub-letting or storage of furniture, &c. It is impossible to go on living in the old way, paying (or owing) the irreducible expenses, such as rent, rates, and taxes. Other things—food, gas, coal—can be cut down, but these have a certain point beyond which they cannot be reduced, especially where there are growing children.

Another factor which plays a large part in the number of homes being given up is the scarcity of servants. It is a very shortsighted policy to suggest that every woman should do her own housework. Educated women are much more useful in other spheres just now; and those who have not been brought up to it soon fail in health, with the best will in the world, after a few months of the unceasing drudgery of housework.

There is only one solution to the problem. The house *must* be given up.

Then comes the question of where to go. The answer is comparatively easy for those who have no children; they will be welcome at any boarding-house or club. But for those with even a small family it is another matter. Apart from the fact that for children old enough to understand, the life at a boarding-house is very bad, and even if the landlady lets her rooms to people with children, the children themselves are looked upon with disfavour by most of the other inmates. Knowing this, it is seldom that landladies consent to take people with children, who try one boarding-house after another, meeting with the same discouraging answer, "We cannot take children."

The most economical way to live is "communally"—*i.e.*, several together. It is much cheaper to buy food collectively for twenty families than to buy for them separately; to cook for them by one kitchen fire, with two or three people to do the work, than for each of the twenty families to have a fire and do their own cooking; to have the rooms kept in order by three or four maids instead of one, or more, to each house. The saving in labour and material is tremendous—that this is recognised by many people is shown by the long waiting-list at the women's residential clubs, and the difficulty of finding rooms in good boarding-houses.

It is therefore obvious, and more than imperative, that something must be done to cater on communal lines for those who have children. The need is great, and very varied, and the opening of clubs where children are received and provision made for looking after them collectively, would set free a large number of women who up to the present have been unable to offer their services to the State, feeling, rightly, that their first duty was to their children.

Below are some suggestions for clubs:—

1. For Women with Young Babies.—These are greatly objected to at boarding-houses, because of their unfortunate propensity of crying at irregular intervals.

There need be no hard-and-fast rules. Each mother can bring her own nurse, if she is fortunate enough to have one; there would also be a "communal" nurse, with assistants, to look after infants who had not their own nurse, and whose mothers were working. Food specially suitable for infants would be provided. The children would all be put to bed early, and would thus leave the club free for the mothers in the evening. (Some women who had no work—but these would become fewer and fewer if their minds were at rest regarding the welfare of their children during their absence—would look after their own babies.)

As regards the sleeping arrangements, those who preferred it could have their baby to sleep with them. There should be one or two "common" bedrooms, in charge of a nurse, where babies would sleep, if necessary, either in the case of illness, or where there was more than one baby in the family.

These homes would be splendid for the children, especially in the case of only children, as it would give them all the benefits of growing up in a large family.

2. For Women with Children of School Age.—The same general principles would apply in these clubs, except that so much service would not be needed, all the children being of an age to help themselves more or less, and being out the greater part of every week-day. Provision would have to be made for their meals, and for a certain amount of supervision over home-work and play.

3. For Women with Children at Boarding-School.—In this case the club would be run on the lines of an ordinary residential club, except for the three months of the year which are the school holidays, during which time the children would live with their mother at the club, and would need a certain amount of supervision.

The above schemes have been suggested for those women whose husbands are serving, and whose incomes have therefore been reduced. At first sight they may seem impractical, but a little thought will show that this is not the case, and some questioning of the class of woman concerned will demonstrate what a great need they would fill. The demand for capable women's work, in place of the men who have gone, is very great, and the women—with some few selfish exceptions—are ready and willing to go, but there are very many who cannot leave their children. Any scheme which helps to overcome this difficulty will greatly augment the number of women enrolling for National Service by giving those who want to volunteer, but are debarred from doing so owing to domestic reasons, freedom to serve the State.

D. I. Wilkins.

BEDFORD COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)
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SECONDARY TRAINING DEPARTMENT.
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HANDKERCHIEF WORKED BY PORT SAID REFUGEES. PRICE 1/8 EACH.

THE "Friends of Armenia" are now receiving consignments of lace-edged handkerchiefs, made by the Armenian refugees at Port Said, under the superintendence of the lady sent by the society to organise the work. The price of the handkerchiefs varies from 1/2 to 2/2 each, according to the work. The illustration depicts one at 1/8.

Samples of the New Port Said handkerchiefs, or specimen parcels of pre-war stock, will gladly be sent on approval, on application to the Office Secretary.

Donations in aid of the general relief work of the Society, or in payment of goods, may be sent to E. WRIGHT BROOKS, Esq., Hon. Treasurer, "Friends of Armenia," 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.
Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed "London County & Westminster Bank."

THE JOYS OF WORK.

The Daily Express has an amusing dialogue between a woman war worker and her neighbour at a dinner-party, described as "one of the discoveries in the excavations of 1914." Starting by a remark of the old gentleman that "Women will never be satisfied to return to a life of idleness after having once tasted of the joys of work," it pictures the ordered leisure of a Government office as it appears to a woman who has been accustomed to looking after a husband and children, with all that it involves, when means are small. "The difference between work at home and work in an office is that in office there is always more time than there is work to do in it, and at home there is more work than there is time. . . . I'm growing fat and lazy, and getting out of harness. If women taste too long of the joys of idleness they will never be satisfied to go back to work."

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS VIOLET EUSTACE.
MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary)
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. AUERBACH.
Secretary:
MISS EDITH STOFFORD.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4673 Vic.

This has been a great week for the N.U.W.S.S. The feeling of the members who were in the office and about Westminster was that old times had returned, but with a strange difference. Again we waited round the House of Commons, fewer in numbers than in old days, because it is more difficult than it was then to leave all that one is doing to go to Westminster, and far, far more difficult to get there when one has done so. But the House of Commons, if it was more difficult to reach, in the material sense, seemed strangely more accessible in other ways. We *know* now that we shall soon be represented there, and to know that gives one quite a new feeling to the Mother of Parliaments!

Our friends in the House, who have worked so well for us, did not forget the minor kindness of taking care that as many of us as possible should have the pleasure of being there to see with our own eyes, and hear with our ears. Mrs. Fawcett and a few other distinguished Suffragists were in the Speaker's Gallery. Many others, some distinguished and some not, in the Ladies' Gallery. Among the former it was a very special pleasure to see Mrs. Rackham again.

The Grille is not down yet, but it is shortly to vanish with other outworn relics of a by-gone time. Its bars could not entirely prevent us from enjoying the sight of the crowded House of Commons, a House which had suddenly become alive again when it touched this most living of all domestic political questions. Neither the grille nor the confusion which Parliamentary technique still causes in many of our minds, prevented us from realising with increasing certainty as the evening went on that all was going very well. When the debate was over, and when after what seemed to the more ignorant ones amongst us to be many strange shoutings and rushings to and fro, the figures were declared, we were much too glad to want to demonstrate.

Votes for women are not won yet. But the British House of Commons has taken a step which can never be reversed, and whatever the ups and downs we still have to face, we know that before any long time has passed it will become in a new sense the "People's House," a Legislature representing the women as well as the men of the oldest Democracy in the world.

1917 Franchise Fund.

Suffragists please send money now. You have never before had an opportunity of giving a donation in a week in which the House of Commons had affirmed Women's Suffrage by a majority of 330. You may never have such an opportunity again. Probably in the future Women's Suffrage will not be a subject on which the House of Commons will have to divide. Now is your time!

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	1,469	14	10
Miss Kitty F. Jones		15	0
Oxford W.S.S.: Mrs. Poulton ...		10	0
Miss Burrows	5	0	0
Mrs. Eyres	2	0	0
Per Mrs. Jones: Collected in Heilbron, Orange Free State	1	10	0
Miss Lilian Howell	32	10	0
Mrs. Robie Uniacke	5	0	0
An Irish Friend	25	0	0
Whitehaven W.S.S.		1	0
Ambleside W.S.S.: Collection at Annual Meeting	5	18	6
	£1,547	19	4

Mrs. Fawcett's Birthday Presents.

	£	s.	d.
Scarborough W.S.S.	2	2	0
South Kensington Branch, London Soc., for W.S.	20	0	0
Mrs. G. E. Foster	5	0	0
Mr. Reginald H. Pott	5	0	0
Mrs. H. B. Taylor	2	2	0
Mrs. Stanton Colt	5	5	0
Mrs. C. E. Taylor	1	0	0
Mrs. Fyffe	5	0	0
Mr. Julius Auerbach	70	0	0
Mrs. Clement Templeton ...	1	0	0
	£1,664	8	4

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1916 ...	1,269	6	8
Received from June 9th to 16th, 1917:—			
SUBSCRIPTIONS			
Miss M. Bridson		10	0
C. E. R.	1	1	0
Miss I. M. Blake	1	1	0
Miss E. A. Lawrence		2	6
Miss Moro		2	6
Miss Ursula Thompson	5	0	0
Miss Juliet Reckitt	10	10	0
AFFILIATION FEES.			
Blairmore W.S.S.	5	0	
Heaton Moor W.S.S.	10	0	
Heywood W.S.S.		6	6
Tonbridge W.S.S.		7	0
Stowmarket W.S.S., add. 1916, 3s.; 1917, 7s.		10	0
	£1,289	14	2

IMPORTANT.

Postal Orders should be crossed and filled in N.U.W.S.S. Treasury Notes should be treated like coins, and always registered. If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the Secretary, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

Please address letters containing money either to the Secretary or to Mrs. Auerbach, or Miss Sterling, by name, *not* to the Treasurer.

Literature Department.

The Literature Department is stocking the excellent pamphlet published by the C. & U.W.F.A., "An Impartial Enquiry into the Effects of Woman Suffrage in Australia and New Zealand," price 6d. This gives the replies from the various States to the Questionnaire, which has been circulated. Such questions as "How do women use the vote?" "What effect, if any, has the vote had on the position of women?" "What legislation has been passed since women had the vote?" and others of equal interest are very fully answered from the point of view of leading statesmen in each of the Provinces. This booklet will be found particularly useful just now, when uncertainty as to the results of the enfranchisement of women exists among some classes of people.

IN MEMORIAM: CAPTAIN JOHN RAPHAEL.

We regret to announce the death from wounds of Captain John Raphael, a most devoted worker for the cause of Women's Suffrage. Members of the London Society will remember that in the Wimbledon election he was one of their most active helpers, and how the little Wimbledon boys crowded round for his autograph, because he was an international football player.

WE wish to draw the attention of our readers to the list of Advertisers who have supported, and are supporting, THE COMMON CAUSE. Will all members, whenever they are about to purchase, stop and think—"Now, cannot I buy that from an Advertiser in THE COMMON CAUSE?"

Only the very best firms have been admitted to our columns, as the list will prove, and we are confident that practically all our readers' requirements can be satisfied at one or other of them. Readers must remember that an advertiser does not feel justified in spending money in a paper, however much he may sympathise with its objects, unless he can show a return; and this can only be proved if our readers will bear in mind to mention THE COMMON CAUSE when purchasing and paying bills. A paper depends for its revenue mainly upon the support it receives from advertisers; therefore do your share in helping our paper by buying exclusively from our advertisers and telling them why you are doing so.

The Manager will be glad to receive suggestions with regard to firms who are selling suitable goods for our columns, and a representative will be sent to report on any novelty, labour-saving device, or any articles of dress, &c., which may be of interest to our readers.

SOME OF OUR SUPPORTERS.

Messrs. Anderson, Anderson & Anderson
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Friends of Armenia
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,, Hospitals Contracts
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N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

A Hospital for British Soldiers.

A new development of the Scottish Women's Hospitals will be the opening of a hospital at Ingles Abbey, Kent, for our own wounded soldiers.

London Units.

A letter has been received from Dr. Elsie Inglis giving some interesting particulars of the hospital at Reni. Dr. Chesney's Hospital, she reports, has gone to Jassy "to go further," and it is expected that the Unit at Reni will soon have to join them.

The following letter was written to Dr. Inglis from the patients in the Hospital at Reni:—

We, all the patients, sick and wounded, belonging to the Army and Navy, and coming from different parts of this great, free Russia, who are at present in your hospital, are filled with feelings of the truest respect for you. We think it our duty, as citizens on this beautiful day of Holy Easter, to express to you, highly respected and much beloved Doctor, as well as to your whole Unit, our best thanks for all the care and attention you have bestowed upon us. We bow low and very respectfully before the constant and useful work which we have seen daily, and which we know to be for the well-being of our Allied Countries.

We are quite sure that, thanks to the complete unity of action of all the allied countries, the hour of gladness and the triumph of the Allied Armies in the cause of humanity and the honour of nations is near.

Vive l'Angleterre!

The Russian Soldiers and Citizens.

Successful Result of the Birmingham Local Committee's Efforts on Behalf of the Funds of the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Home and Foreign Service.

With the able and enthusiastic assistance of Miss Preston, who was appointed Organiser and Secretary by Headquarters Committee, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, of the Scottish Women's Hospital for Home and Foreign Service, the efforts of the Birmingham Local S.W.H. Committee have now culminated in the handsome sum of £400 having been forwarded by Mr. John Weatherhead, who is kindly acting as Hon. Treasurer of the S.W.H. in Birmingham. Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, in acknowledging this sum, desires to express in her own name and that of the Executive Committee the very grateful thanks they feel for this response, notwithstanding the many other urgent calls that the citizens of Birmingham must have at the present time.

The anticipated new development of the Scottish Women's Hospitals' activities by the opening of a hospital near London for our own wounded Tommies, calls for continued help financially from all the many friends of the Scottish Women's Hospital. The Committee, alas! expect that during the coming summer all their hospital accommodation, both at home and abroad, will be strained to the utmost, but feel confident that support will not be lacking, nor will they have to slacken any of their efforts in giving succour and assistance to the wounded and sick victims of this cruel world war.

Mrs. Laurie, the Hon. Treasurer, is also pleased to note that she has received two additional "Serbian Prisoners of War" subscriptions, one of £39 14s., being collection taken at Cranston's Tea Rooms, per the Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, and one of £1 7s., being collection taken by pupils of Graigton Higher Grade School, Aberdeen, per Miss Craigie. The sufferings of these unfortunate prisoners of war are so heartrending that the Committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals would urgently desire a heartier response to their appeal.

Further subscriptions are still urgently needed, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to Lady Cowdray, or the Hon. Mrs. B. M. Graves, Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to June 7th, 1917	217,189	6	4
Further donations received to June 14th, 1917:—			
Miss Preston, Org. and Sec., S.W.H., Birmingham, per John Weatherhead, Esq. ...	400	0	0
*The Misses Douglas, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., per Miss Helen Wright, Sec., N.U.W.S.S., Worthing	10	10	0
*Per Miss Etta Shankland, per Jas. McCosh, Esq., towards "Dalry Public School and Workers'" bed, Salonica: (2nd instals.) Employees Messrs. Fleming, Reid & Co., Ltd. (£4 1s.), Staff, Dalry Higher Grade Public School (£2 19s.), Employees Miller & Anderson (£2 17s.), Employees Kyle, Aitken & Gardiner, Ltd. (£1 13s. 10d.)	11	10	10
J. W. Gordon Oswald, to name a "Redemption" bed (1st year)	50	0	0
*Radcliffe and Whitefield W.S.S., per Miss A. Dyet, Hon. Treas., towards "Radcliffe and Whitefield" bed (Corsica) (2nd year's upkeep)	42	6	0
Ellon Parish Church Women's Guild, per Rev. Wm. Y. Colquhoun	10	0	0
*Mrs. Tullis	2	2	0
Miss Maggie B. Thomson ...	1	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: Staff and Employees Saxone Shoe Co., Ltd. (£7 11s. 8d.), Employees Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (66th con.) (£2 2s. 7d.) ...	9	14	3
*Mrs. Tiffany, New York, per Miss Jessie Fuller Kenny, Sec. (monthly don.)	5	4	2
*Firm and Workmen Messrs. Wm. Hamilton & Co., Ltd., per D. L. Laurie, Esq., Sec., per Miss Etta Shankland, towards "Glen Shipbuilding Yard" bed (4th instal.) ...	2	11	0
Miss Margaret Stuart McCrae	1	0	0
*Per Miss Kathleen Burke, per Miss Helen Hawley, Wiscousin	100	0	0
*Per Miss Kathleen Burke, per the Manager, British Linen Bank, Glasgow, per First National Bank, Chicago, per James B. Forgan, Esq., Local Treas.	153	15	5
*Per Mrs. B. P. Young, for upkeep of "Trinity Heroes" bed (Royaumont) (2nd year)	26	6	0
Messrs. Braithwaite & Co. ...	2	2	0
*Mrs. Reid	2	0	0
*Alex. Cupples, Esq.	2	0	0
Miss Goddard, per. Dr. Beatrice Russell	1	0	0
*Miss Siddon, Pres., Huddersfield W.S.S., per Mrs. Harrop, Hon. Treas., for the "Emily Frances Siddon" bed (Corsica) (already received £7—£25 for 3rd 6 months)	18	0	0
*Proceeds of Limelight Lecture by Miss Etta Shankland, Greenock, in St. Laurence's R.C. Hall, per Rev. Wm. Horgan (£12 17s. 3d.), Further from Lecture, St. Laurence's Boys' School, per Jas. McCurdy, Headmaster (towards 2nd year's upkeep of School bed) (£4 11s. 6d.) ...	17	8	9
*Sunderland W.S.S., per Mrs. Mundella, Hon. Treas., May Collections: Workmen Messrs. R. A. Bartram & Sons, Ltd. (£4 1s. 5d.), Workmen, Foremen, and Officials Messrs. McColl & Pollock, Ltd. (£3); Collected at 4, Bedford Road: Mrs. Common (10s.), Miss J. Common (10s.), Mrs. Eliot Common (10s.), Household Economies at 4, Bedford Road (6s.), Mrs. Walford Common (5s.), Mrs. Garcia (2s. 5d.), A Friend (1s.); Per Mrs. Mundella: Mrs. A. Johnson (10s. 6d.), Form VI., Bede Collegiate Girls' School (6s. 1d.), Mrs. Eyres (5s.), Mrs. Patrick (5s.), Miss A. Hedley (2s. 6d.), Miss M. Panton (2s. 6d.), S. H. C. (2s. 6d.), Miss Farquhar (2s. 6d.), Mrs. A. Ritson (2s.), Mrs. Mundella (2s.), Mrs. Oliver (1s.), Nurse Hinch (1s.), Mrs. Dalrymple Smith (6s. 8d.), S. G. (4s.) ...	11	19	2
Julian A. Osler, Esq.	10	0	0
*King's Sutton Suffrage Society, per Mrs. Browne	3	17	0
Mrs. J. S. Turner (Dr. Inglis' Unit)	2	0	0
Pupils of High School, Wishaw, per A. J. C. Kerr, Headmaster	1	4	0
*Pupils of Ardgowan School, Greenock, per James Hutcheson, Esq., towards School bed (Corsica), per Miss Etta Shankland (2nd year's upkeep)	1	0	0
*Per Miss Isabelle Kerr, Local Hon. Sec., S.W.H., 11th instal. from Waste Paper and Waste Material Scheme, Greenock...	20	0	0
*Per Miss Edith May, per Messrs. Croall & Sons, resale of three Dunlop tyres... ...	18	11	9
*Nairn W.S.S., per Mrs. Ellis, Hon. Treas. (monthly cons.)	15	0	0
*Per J. T. Dunn: Gateshead W.S.S. (£2), Private subscriptions (£1)	3	0	0
Collection taken from Junior Y.M.C.A., Dunfermline, per Miss Wylie...	1	4	0
Mrs. Wilson	1	0	0
*Staff of Bruntsfield Public School, per T. J. Robertson, Esq., Headmaster		10	0
*Miss Isabella Paterson... ...		10	0
*Per Miss L. C. Jones, Hon Sec., Pangbourne W.S.S.: Miss E. Cox (2s. 6d.), C. E. Hodgeton, Esq. (2s. 6d.) ...		5	0
	£218.147	17	9

* Denotes further donations.

Further List of Beds Named.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Aberdeenshire" (Macedonia) (1 year) (1st year)	Per Miss Bury.
"Redemption" (New Unit) (1 year) (1st year)	J. W. Gordon Oswald, Esq., Algas, Beauley, Inverness-shire.
"Radcliffe and Whitefield" (Corsica) (further 6 months) (2nd year)... ...	Per Miss A. Dyet, Hon. Treas., Radcliffe and Whitefield W.S.S.
"Trinity Heroes" (Royaumont) (further 6 months) (3rd 6 months)... ...	Per Mrs. B. P. Young, Trinity Road, Edinburgh.
"Emily Frances Siddon" (Corsica) (further 6 months) (3rd 6 months) ...	Miss Siddon, Pres., Huddersfield W.S.S., per Mrs. Harrop, Hon. Treas.

"THE COMMON CAUSE" FUND.

We are very grateful to the many kind friends who have given donations to the C.C. Fund.

The cost of running a newspaper has very greatly increased since we made our appeal last July Any financial assistance is therefore very welcome in the present crisis, as we are anxious to keep up the standard of the paper and also not to cut down our pages further. Another way that Societies can materially assist The Common Cause, apart from donations, is for them to put all their announcements to members in our advertisement columns. This is a source of revenue to the paper, and in these days of dearer postage should be an advantage to Societies. Remember, also, IF YOU HAVE A WANT, MAKE IT KNOWN THROUGH THE COMMON CAUSE.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	571	1	0
Miss Kitty F. Jones		5	0
A Friend (with birthday greetings to Mrs. Fawcett), per Mrs. d'Amman...	2	2	6
	£573	8	6

WOMEN WELDERS' ORGANISATION FUND.

The members of the Society of Women Welders appeal to the readers of The Common Cause for subscriptions to help the expenses of their organisation. They are confident that their Society will shortly become self-supporting, but at first their organisation expenses must be heavy, and they trust that those who believe with them that the only protection for women workers is organisation, will help them in their venture.

Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss M. M. Longley, c/o The Common Cause, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W. 1.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	88	7	6
Miss S. R. Courtauld	5	0	0
	£93	7	6

Copies of the Parliamentary Debates.—We strongly advise our readers to secure copies of the "Official Report" of the Parliamentary Debates (commonly known as "Hansard") for the 19th and 20th of June. From a careful reading of these complete reports Suffragists will acquire a knowledge of the proceedings such as they cannot gain from the newspapers alone. Moreover, in years to come, these Official Reports of the passage of Women's Suffrage through the House of Commons will possess no small historic value. Copies of the Report for the two days may be ordered from the Literature Department, Office of the N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. 1., 4d. each (8d. for the two).

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

BRISTOL.—Following the advice from Headquarters, several of the N.U.W.S.S. Committee rendered valuable service to the vigorous War Saving and Food Campaign which was held in Bristol last month, and, in consequence of the great success of the Thrift Exhibition arranged by the Suffrage Society some months ago, the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. W. C. H. Cross, took a leading part in the organisation of one held in connection with the campaign.

A number of the Executive Committee, who work at Mothers' Centres, are helping in the arrangements for "Baby Week." Meetings will be held daily at the Victoria Rooms.

A lengthy advertisement and a letter in reply to the Anti-Suffrage advertisement were put in three local papers, at a considerable cost, some of the Committee giving special donations towards defraying the expense.

A list of names of prominent women in Bristol was sent up for the House of Lords Memorial to help the cause of Electoral Reform. Also letters were sent to local members of Parliament.

The working parties continue, and another parcel of clothing has been forwarded for the use of the Scottish Hospitals.

The N.U.W.W. arranged a series of very valuable lectures on Venereal Disease. Members of the Suffrage Society acted as stewards at the Clifton meetings, which were very fully attended.

The Hostel for Women, in which Suffragists have shown keen interest, has held its first annual meeting, and has fully justified its existence. From twenty-five to thirty-five women have been accommodated nightly at the hostel, and the 2d. shelter (where women can be admitted at any hour of the night) has been of the greatest value.

ASCOT.—A most interesting gathering was held at Holmwood Lodge, in lovely weather, on June 13th, at the annual meeting of the Women's Suffrage Society. After business was concluded, showing a very satisfactory balance-sheet and an encouraging increase in membership, some of the neighbours joined the party to hear an address from Lady Frances Balfour on the position of women. Lady Frances was followed with deep attention by the large audience. Tea on the beautiful lawn made a very pleasant conclusion, the occasion of holding an annual meeting, *With the Goal in Sight*, being specially inspiriting.

Forthcoming Meetings.

JUNE 25.

Birmingham—Farm Street Infant Welfare Centre—Speaker: Mrs. Attlee. 2.15 p.m.

Birmingham—Handsworth Infant Welfare Centre—Speaker: Mrs. Ring. 4 p.m.

JUNE 27.

Birmingham—St. John's, Ladywood—Speaker: Miss Cooper. 8 p.m.

Bristol—Meeting at Winterbourne—Speaker: Mrs. W. C. H. Cross.

Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street. 3—5 p.m.

London—Mission Hall, Hither Green—Subject, "Women's War Work"—Speaker: Miss Clive Bayley. 3 p.m.

JUNE 28.

Birmingham—Latimer Street Infant Welfare Centre—Speaker: Mrs. Ring. 3 p.m.

Leicester—Annual Business Meeting of the Leicester W.S.S. 7 p.m.

Leicester—Edward Wood Hall—Speaker: Miss Moberly—Chair: The Mayor.

JUNE 29.

Birmingham—Grand Hotel—Annual Meeting—Speaker: Mrs. Heitland—Chair: Mrs. Osler. 4.30 p.m.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Two very interesting meetings have been arranged by the London Units, one on June 25th, at 5 p.m. at Lady Muir Mackenzie's, 22, Draycott Place, S.W., when the celebrated authority on Russia, Mr. Stephen Graham, will take the chair, and the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield will speak on the work of the London Unit in the Dobrudja.

On June 28th, at 5.15 p.m. at King's College, Strand, with Professor Gilbert Murray, LL.D., D.Litt., as Chairman, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield will speak on her experiences (lantern slide illustrations), and Mr. A. H. E. Taylor will speak on the present situation in the Balkans.

MONDAY, JUNE 25th, 5.0 p.m.—Lady Muir-Mackenzie "At Home"—Speaker: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield—Chairman: Stephen Graham, Esq.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26th, 3.0 p.m.—American Women's Club—Speaker: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28th, 5.15 p.m.—Joint meeting of the London Units of the Scottish Women's Hospitals and the Serbian Society of Great Britain—Speakers: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, on the Scottish Women's Hospitals work in Rumania (lantern slide illustrations); A. H. E. Taylor, Esq.—Chairman: Professor Gilbert Murray.

FRIDAY, June 29th, 3 p.m.—St. Alban's High School Speakers: Miss Reaney, Miss May Curwen.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30th. Afternoon meeting.—Garden and river party—Formosa, Cookham, Maidenhead—Speaker: The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, on the Scottish Women's Hospitals work for Serbia.

TUESDAY, JULY 3rd, 6.45 p.m.—Christ's Hospital—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.

THURSDAY, JULY 5th, 5 p.m.—Garden meeting, Royal Observatory, Greenwich—Hostess: Lady Dyson—Speaker: Miss May Curwen.

Items of Interest.

The Bachelor of Medicine examination is now open to women at Oxford, and it is expected that the Professor of Human Anatomy will admit women to his department next term.

The final batch of Cambridge Tripos lists was issued last Saturday. The total number of successful women for the year is 166, the largest number on record.

The Daily Express makes the suggestion that Lord Rhondda's daughter, Lady Mackworth, whose business abilities are well known, might be appointed Assistant Food Controller.

Among the candidates elected for the District Councils in Petrograd are twenty-four women. Battalions of women are said to be forming, and drilling hard, in Petrograd, in order to shame their men by fighting at the front.

The controversy as to the status and treatment of V.A.D. nurses still goes on. *The Times*, of June 19th, contains another long letter from "Observer," replying to criticisms in the Nursing Press, and urging the necessity of prompt action on the lines of the recently published report, for the grading and selection on merit for the period of the war of the best of the voluntary nurses for service as assistant staff nurses, with "some security and status for the duration of the war."

In the U.S.A. they are already at work on their own "food problem." The President is urging Congress to hasten the passing of the Food Control Bill, stating, in a letter to Mr. Hoover, that "the many undirecting and overlapping efforts being made towards this end (the saving of food, &c.) all press for national direction and inspiration."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

DIVORCE LAW REFORM UNION.—Public meeting, July 5th, Caxton Hall, at 5 p.m. Speakers—Professor Gilbert Murray, Sir John Cockburn, K.C., M.G., Mr. Gerald France, M.P., Mrs. Despard, Dr. Saleeby, and Dr. Marion Phillips. Chairman: Mr. Cecil Chapman. Admission free.

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(Continued on page 140

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